

AC 44946



County Borough of Smethwick.

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The  
Health of the Borough  
in  
1938.

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HUGH PAUL, M.D., D.P.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health.

JOHN H. WRIGHT, M.S.I.A.,  
Chief Sanitary Inspector.



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# County Borough of Smethwick.

## COMMITTEES—1937-1938.

### Health Committee:

*Chairman:* THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR T. C. MCKENZIE, J.P., M.B.).  
 COUNCILLOR A. W. M. BONEHAM. COUNCILLOR MRS. A. F. BUTLER.  
 COUNCILLOR A. J. CROWDER. COUNCILLOR MRS. E. M. FARLEY.  
 ALDERMAN C. G. KEMPTON. COUNCILLOR W. H. PERRY.  
 COUNCILLOR MISS E. M. WOODCOCK, J.P.

### Mental Deficiency and Maternity and Child Welfare Committee:

The Members of the Health Committee together with the following  
 Co-opted Members:—

MRS. JUCKES. MRS. FREARSON.  
 MRS. SMITH. MISS WRIGHT.

### St. Chad's Hospital Sub-Committee:

*Chairman:* ALDERMAN C. G. KEMPTON.  
 COUNCILLOR A. W. M. BONEHAM. THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR T. C. MCKENZIE, J.P., M.B.)  
 COUNCILLOR MRS. E. M. FARLEY. COUNCILLOR W. H. PERRY.

### Smethwick and Oldbury Joint Hospital Committee.

*Chairman:* ALDERMAN H. H. ROBBINS.

#### *Smethwick Representatives:*

COUNCILLOR F. BODENHAM. THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR T. C. MCKENZIE, J.P., M.B.)  
 COUNCILLOR E. CONDON, M.B. COUNCILLOR J. PERKINS, J.P.  
 COUNCILLOR MRS. E. LEE. ALDERMAN J. REECE.  
 COUNCILLOR MRS. A. E. LENNARD, J.P. COUNCILLOR MISS E. M. WOODCOCK, J.P.

#### *Oldbury Representatives:*

ALDERMAN S. T. MELSOM. ALDERMAN H. H. ROBBINS.  
 ALDERMAN B. T. ROBBINS, J.P. ALDERMAN MRS. SMITH.

### Smethwick Representatives on the South Staffordshire Joint Small Pox Hospital Board.

COUNCILLOR MRS. M. KIMBERLEY. COUNCILLOR F. W. PERRY.  
 COUNCILLOR MISS E. M. WOODCOCK, J.P.



## HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF.

---

*Medical Officer of Health, Tuberculosis Officer, School Medical Officer,  
and Medical Superintendent of Isolation Hospital:*

HUGH PAUL, M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

*Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Clinical Tuberculosis Officer:*

A. WILSON RUSSELL, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Senior Assistant Medical Officer of Health:*

ROBERT P. BOYD, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.F.P.S., D.P.H.

*Assistant Medical Officers:*

MARGARET E. McLAREN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

CHRISTINE J. McLEAY, M.B., Ch.B.

*Consulting Radiologist:* JAMES F. BRAILSFORD, M.D., Ch.B.

*District Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator:*

JAMES SHAW, M.B., Ch.B.

*Vaccination Officer:* F. E. CADBY.

*Chief Sanitary Inspector:*

†\*JOHN H. WRIGHT.

*Sanitary Inspectors:*

†\*WM. E. SHAW.

†\*F. CADDICK

†\*S. SADLER.

*Assistant Sanitary Inspector:*

\*H. HERBERT.

*Secretary:* \*GEORGE H. ROE.

*Senior Clerk:* J. P. LITTLE.

*Clerks:*

H. ELLARBY, A.C.I.S.

EVE MACMILLAN.

FRANCES K. CALLARD.

KATHLEEN L. WHISTON.

FLORENCE E. HOWLETT.

LILIAN H. HOWL.

EVELYN M. SMITH.

V. M. LAWTON.

J. V. PERRINS.

*Junior Clerk:* G. J. ALLEN.

*Nursing Staff:**Superintendent Health Visitor:*

‡§||Miss CECILE BURDEN (to 6/9/38).

‡§||Miss CECILIA WATERHOUSE (from 14/11/38).

||Miss L. E. ROBERTS.

‡§||Miss A. GARNER.

\*§||Miss F. RICHARDS.

‡§||Miss M. P. O'KEEFE.

§||Miss F. M. SULLIVAN.

‡§||Miss P. D. M. BANNER.

§||Miss C. M. BULLOCK.

‡§||Miss E. G. FISHER

‡§||Miss H. OWEN.

(from 21/2/38).

§||Miss J. P. BATES.

‡§||Miss R. TAYLOR

§||Miss E. COLLINS.

(from 21/2/38).

‡§||Miss J. E. ACKERS.

The work of these nurses is divided between the following Committees:—Health, Maternity and Child Welfare, Tuberculosis, Education and Mental Deficiency.

*Municipal Midwives:*

||§Nurse A. GROSVENOR.

||§Nurse N. J. SAGE

§Nurse E. L. WILLIS.

(to 30/8/38).

||§Nurse L. CHATWIN.

§Nurse M. W. ASTON

||§Nurse A. HEDINGTON.

(from 14/11/38).

||§Nurse M. E. SHAFFREY.

||§Nurse A. FOX.

*Matron of Isolation Hospital:* Miss F. E. WHITEHOUSE.*Matron of Children's Home:* Miss A. M. ROBINSON.*Public Analyst:* JOSEPH LONES, F.I.C., F.C.S.

\*Sanitary Inspectors' Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute.

†Meat and Foods Inspectors' Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute.

‡Health Visitors' Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute.

§State Certified Midwife.

‡§State Registered Nurse.

## ST. CHAD'S HOSPITAL STAFF.

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### *Medical Superintendent:*

HUGH PAUL, M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

### *Deputy Medical Superintendent:*

A. WILSON RUSSELL, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

### *Resident Obstetrical Officer:*

JAMES A. CHALMERS, M.B., Ch.B.

G. GORDON LENNON, M.B., Ch.B., Ch.M., M.C.O.G.

### *Resident Medical Officers:*

CECILIA RATH, M.B., Ch.B. (19/4/38 to 22/11/38).

CHARLES H. THOMSON, M.B., Ch.B. (to 30/4/38).

BARBARA B. BUCKLE, M.B., Ch.B.

MAURICE ARNOLD, F.R.C.S. (from 22/11/38).

### *Matron:*

PHYLLIS M. LODGE, S.R.N., D.N.

### *Assistant Matron:*

SUSANNAH B. PUGH, S.R.N., S.C.M.

### *Secretary:*

GEORGE H. ROE, C.R.S.I.

### *Registrar:*

W. CECIL SHELTON, F.C.I.S.

### *Clerks:*

L. T. BAINES.

H. C. BOWERMAN (from 18/5/38).

LILLIAN MUNIER (and Radiographer).

ENID L. PLIMLEY.

### *Junior Clerk:*

V. CASHMORE (to 23/10/38).

R. D. J. WINSTANLEY (from 7/11/38).

### OBITUARY.

LEONARD T. BAINES.

Died 15th February, 1939.



## CONSULTANT STAFF, St. CHAD'S HOSPITAL.

Physicians.	<i>Times of attendance at other Hospitals.</i>
O. BRENNER, M.D. ... ..	(Q) Fridays 9 a.m.
E. BULMER, M.D., F.R.C.P. ... ..	(G) Wednesdays and Fridays 9 a.m.
PROF. P. C. P. CLOAKE, M.D., F.R.C.P. ... ..	(Q) Mondays 9 a.m.
A. V. NEALE, M.D., F.R.C.P. ... ..	(C) Mondays & Thursdays 1.30 p.m. (G) Thursdays 9 a.m. (Q) Wednesdays 9 a.m.
W. CAREY SMALLWOOD, M.B., M.R.C.P. ... ..	(C) Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 1.30 p.m. (Q) Thursdays 9 a.m. (G) Mondays and Tuesdays 9 a.m.
J. M. SMELLIE, M.D., F.R.C.P. ... ..	(C) Mondays 1.30 p.m. (G) Thursdays & Saturdays 9 a.m.
A. BRIAN TAYLOR, M.D., M.R.C.P. ... ..	(G) Tuesdays 9 a.m. (Q) Saturdays 9 a.m.
MISS FRANCES BRAID, M.D., F.R.C.P. ... ..	(C) Tuesdays and Fridays 1.30 p.m.
G. EDEN, M.D. ... ..	(Q) Tuesdays 9 a.m.
T. L. HARDY, M.D., F.R.C.P. ... ..	(G) Mondays 9 a.m.
G. L. J. MACKEY, M.D., F.R.C.P. ... ..	(Q) Fridays 12 (noon).
PROF. L. G. PARSONS, M.D., F.R.C.P. ... ..	(C) Wednesdays 1.30 p.m. (G) Thursdays 9 a.m.
PROF. K. D. WILKINSON, O.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.P. ... ..	(G) Fridays 9 a.m. (C) Fridays 1.30 p.m.
PROF W. H. WYNN, M.D., F.R.C.P. ... ..	(G) Wednesdays 9 a.m.
 <b>Surgeons.</b>	
R. K. DEBENHAM, F.R.C.S. ... ..	(C) Mondays and Fridays 1.30 p.m. (Q) Saturdays 9 a.m.
T. S. DONOVAN, F.R.C.S. ... ..	(Q) Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9 a.m.
PROF. W. GEMMILL, F.R.C.S. ... ..	(Q) Wednesdays 9 a.m.
J. B. LEATHER, F.R.C.S. ... ..	(G) Thursdays 9 a.m.
R. P. SCOTT MASON, F.R.C.S. ... ..	(G) Tuesdays 9 a.m. (C) Wednesdays 1.30 p.m.
C. A. RAISON, F.R.C.S. ... ..	(G) Mondays 9 a.m. and Wednesdays 10.30 a.m. (C) Thursdays 1.30 p.m.
B. T. ROSE, M.Ch., F.R.C.S. ... ..	(G) Saturdays 9 a.m.
H. H. SAMPSON, O.B.E., M.C., F.R.C.S. ... ..	(G) Fridays 9 a.m. (C) Thursdays 1.30 p.m.
J. N. SANKEY, F.R.C.S. ... ..	(Q) Mondays 9 a.m.
F. A. R. STAMMERS, F.R.C.S. ... ..	(C) Tuesdays 1.30 p.m. (G) Thursdays and Fridays 9 a.m.
FAUSET WELSH, F.R.C.S. ... ..	(G) Mondays & Wednesdays 9 a.m.
PROF. SEYMOUR BARLING, C.M.G., M.S., F.R.C.S. ... ..	(G) Wednesdays 9 a.m.
B. A. LLOYD, F.R.C.S. ... ..	(Q) Tuesdays 9 a.m. (C) Fridays 1.30 p.m.
G. PERCIVAL MILLS, F.R.C.S. ... ..	(G) Mondays 11 a.m.
BERNARD WARD, F.R.C.S. ... ..	(C) Thursdays 9 a.m. (Q) Thursdays 9 a.m.

**Gynæcological Surgeons.**

W. E. BARNIE-ADSHED, F.R.C.S.	...	(Q)	Thursdays 9 a.m.
A. B. DANBY, F.R.C.S.	...	(G)	Fridays 9 a.m.
F. SELBY TAIT, M.B., F.R.C.S.	...	(Q)	Mondays & Wednesdays 9 a.m.
PROF. SIR H. BECKWITH WHITEHOUSE, M.S., F.R.C.S.	...	(G)	Wednesdays 9 a.m.

*Times of attendance at other  
Hospitals.***Ear and Throat Surgeons.**

D. J. EVANS, F.R.C.S.	...	(Q)	Tuesdays 9 a.m.
A. J. MOFFETT, F.R.C.S.	...	(Q)	Tuesdays 9 a.m.
E. C. N. STRONG, F.R.C.S.	...	(E)	Wednesdays 9.30 a.m.
C. L. WALKER, F.R.C.S.	...	(E)	Tuesdays and Fridays 9.30 a.m.

**Anæsthetists.**

L. T. CLARKE, M.B.	...	(Q)	May attend at any time.
H. W. FEATHERSTONE M.D.	...	(G)	Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays 9 a.m. Attends Children's as requested. Special cases only.
G. W. HASSALL, L.M.S.S.A.	...	(G)	Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9 a.m.
B. L. S. MURTAGH, M.B.	...	(Q)	No fixed time for attendance.

**Ophthalmic Surgeons.**

E. B. ALABASTER, M.R.C.S.	...	(C)	Mondays 1.30 p.m.
R. BEATSON HIRD, M.D., F.R.C.S.	...	(G)	Tuesdays and Fridays 9 a.m.
C. RUDD, M.D., Ch.B., F.R.F.P.S.G., D.O.M.S.	...	(Q)	Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9 a.m.

**Physicians to the Skin Department.**

E. BAYLIS ASH, M.B., M.R.C.P....	...	(Q)	Thursdays 9 a.m.
B. C. TATE, M.D.	...	(G)	Tuesdays and Fridays 9 a.m.
		(C)	Wednesdays 9.30 a.m.

**Dental Surgeons.**

R. H. ASTBURY, M.D., Ch.B., L.D.S.	...	(G)	Saturdays 9 a.m.
COL. R. A. BRODERICK, M.B., Ch.B., M.D.S.	...	(C)	Mondays 9 a.m.
E. DAVIES-THOMAS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.D.S.	...	(C)	Fridays 9 a.m.
HAROLD ROUND, M.D.S.	...	(Q)	Wednesdays 9 a.m.
R. O. WALKER, L.R.C.P., L.D.S.	...	(Q)	Wednesdays 9 a.m.

(G)—General. (Q)—Queen's. (C)—Children's. (E)—Ear and Throat.



## County Borough of Smethwick.

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Public Health Department.

"The Uplands,"

Hales Lane,

Smethwick,

August, 1939.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS FOR THE  
COUNTY BOROUGH OF SMETHWICK.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The year under review was one of the most difficult and unsatisfactory in the annals of public health endeavour. The decline in trade with its concomitant unemployment, the international tension in the Autumn, the pre-occupation of your officers with work in connection with civil defence, and the relative neglect of true public health matters consequent on A.R.P., all combined to neutralise, to some extent at least, the value of preventive work in our proper sphere of public health.

The vital statistics, although on the whole not unsatisfactory, show very few really bright spots, and one or two unsatisfactory features. The infant mortality, which for many years has been substantially below that of the country as a whole, showed the highest figure for five years, and was considerably above that of the country as a whole (62 for Smethwick and 53 for England and Wales).

The death-rate for diarrhoea and enteritis was also high, but will probably be much lower for 1939. The death-rate from infectious and respiratory diseases of childhood was low and the birth-rate was slightly higher, but the tuberculosis death-rate was the highest since 1929.

There were no deaths from whooping cough or scarlet fever, and the death-rate for measles was very much lower than that of the country as a whole.

There were 185 cases of diphtheria and eleven deaths—all unnecessary and all preventable. It is a tragedy that the one disease which can be so easily and cheaply prevented still takes its heavy toll of health and life. It is not ignorance, for a personal letter is sent to the parents of every child in Smethwick giving full particulars, with a suggested time and date when preventive treatment may be obtained free; it is apathy. Many parents will not take the small amount of trouble to bring their children until too late, but vain regrets will not cure a child nor bring back the dead.



## ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CARE

In spite of the fact that over 90 per cent. of our expectant mothers attend one of our ante-natal clinics and that they attend more frequently each succeeding year, the stillbirth rate and the neo-natal rate leave no room for complacence. It is true that the stillbirth rate in Smethwick was 25 per cent. below that of England and Wales during 1938, and that even a complete and perfect scheme of ante-natal and post-natal care could not completely wipe out stillbirths. The stillbirth rate includes deliberate abortions, and the number of these cannot be accurately estimated, but this proportion is the most difficult to prevent. There are social considerations as well as medical ones in the problem of the preservation of the child, and a return to a higher level of industrial prosperity bringing with it an improvement in the standard of living of the poorest paid workers would be a powerful ally in our efforts. When poverty is ever present and a family lacks a sense of social security, then ethical and moral values are liable to be distorted. It is said that money is the root of all evil, but the absence of money, or the things which money can buy, gives rise to much greater temptations and much more evil.

The prosperity which we crave, however, is not the artificial prosperity of a re-armament boom, with its attendant nervous tension, but a prosperity based on the goodwill and desire to work together of all nations. Security—mental, physical and psychological—must accompany prosperity if its full benefits are to be reaped.

The post-natal scheme which was greatly extended at the passing of the Midwives Act of 1936, is now getting into its stride, and bids fair to repeat the history of the ante-natal movement. There are at present four weekly post-natal sessions, and in 1938 approximately a quarter of the nursing mothers of the town attended. This improvement is not spectacular, but it is speedy. It is well nigh impossible to evaluate the results of these clinics, because they prevent disease much more than they save life, but as we know that a really enormous amount of ill-health in women is due to the after effects of a confinement, it is reasonable to assume that the detection and care of defects and deformities arising out of childbirth will cut down the amount of ill-health. It is difficult, however, to prove to the mother the value of this work, as she is frequently unaware that her vague ill-health is due in any way to her recent, or indeed not so recent, childbirth.

Close study of the home visiting work done by the health visitors shows a disquieting and steady reduction in the amount of this valuable work. This reduction, which has affected all classes of work, except first visits of the mothers of the newly born, is all the more serious as it is progressive and is continuing. It is unsatisfactory to note that the total number of visits paid by our health visitors fell from 32,764 to 18,099 in the space of six years, a drop of close on 50 per cent. The home visiting of school children has similarly declined.



The reasons are not hard to find. The number of health visitors at present employed is only one greater than six or seven years ago, whereas all other branches of the staff have been augmented very considerably, notably the medical and clerical staffs. On the other hand, the amount of work thrown on the health visitors has increased to a vast extent, and all are now working at full pressure. There were no post-natal clinics in 1932; now there are four. The number of ante-natal clinics has increased by three, and the numbers attending have increased in even greater proportions. Nutritional surveys of school children, visitation of boarded-out and foster children, arrangements of home helps, following up of orthoptic cases and diphtheria immunisation did not take up so much of the nurses' time, while the appointment of an additional assistant medical officer for general duties has meant that a nurse has had to accompany him at his clinics, and on some occasions to prepare the children beforehand. Six years ago the ante-natal work was done by the part-time work of the two lady doctors—a minority of their work. Now there are two whole-time obstetrical officers on the staff. In addition, there is A.R.P.

The last few years have been difficult years in the matter of recruitment of health visitors, and our efforts to obtain suitable applicants to fill vacancies as they occur have at times caused us some anxiety. The evolution of social and public health visiting has vastly increased the demand for health visitors, and there has been an acute shortage. There are now signs, however, that large numbers of suitable and intelligent women are entering this branch of the profession and it is to be hoped that the next few years will see the position made much easier.

The increased administrative work consequent upon A.R.P. has prevented my giving the maternity and infant welfare service the attention such an important and useful section of public health endeavour merits, but I hope to be able to present a report on it before the next financial year.

So much has been written about A.R.P., that it would appear that little more could be said to clarify the situation. The work has been absolutely essential, and although unproductive has had to receive priority above all other work. The spirit of the staff who have laboured at this work since last September has been beyond praise; indeed, the one good thing which the unhappy international tension has shown, is the extent to which Britons can and will work regardless of their health, their recreation, or even their inclination, with a cheerfulness which no other nation can emulate. There has been an enormous amount of overtime work of excellent quality done by all members of the staff and there have been no grumbles. Everyone knows it is necessary; and at heart I think most officers think that our system of democracy is really worth working for and are prepared to sacrifice much to retain it.

The thanks of the Council and of the whole Borough are due in generous measure to the thousands of volunteers who have freely come forward and given of their time and energy and still more of their

enthusiasm, to train and equip themselves for civil defence. Although our numbers are not yet complete, particularly with regard to first aid parties and ambulance drivers, the quality and spirit of the volunteers is very high and most of them have thrown themselves whole-heartedly into our scheme and are proving themselves very efficient indeed.

One is greatly tempted to mention specially a number of names of persons, both official and voluntary, who have been particularly helpful and to whom the success of the scheme is in the main due, but so many have given of their best, that it would be invidious to single out a few.

No regrets are shed at the passing of 1938. Few will be shed at the passing of 1939. May 1940 be a brighter year.

In conclusion I would like to thank all those who have assisted the Health Department in the year that is past. They are particularly numerous this year, including as they do, large numbers of the public as well as every department of the Council.

I feel that the work of the past year has knit the personnel of the Health Department together more closely than ever. The heavy work, the serious responsibility and the strain and the tension has brought out the best and highest in all, and all have worked together as one happy family.

The work of the department could not have been efficiently carried out without the help, sympathy and encouragement of the Health Committee, and our sincere thanks are due to them and especially to our energetic and considerate chairman, Alderman Kempton.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

HUGH PAUL, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

ESTIMATED NET EXPENDITURE ON PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1938.

	Amount.		Rate in the £	
	£	s.	d.	
Prevention of Infectious Diseases ... ..	599		.38	
Notification of Infectious Diseases ... ..	60		.04	
Smethwick and Oldbury Joint Hospital ...	6,383		4.06	
South Staffs. Joint Smallpox Hospital ...	61		.04	
St. Chad's Hospital ... ..	13,323		8.49	
Hospital Provision ... ..	350		.22	
Convalescent Treatment ... ..	25		.02	
Housing Act, 1935 (Survey) ... ..	1,891		1.20	
Vaccination ... ..	236		.15	
Tuberculosis ... ..	7,093		4.52	
Venereal Diseases ... ..	529		.34	
Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928 ...	238		.15	
Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915...	200		.13	
Milk Order, 1923 ... ..	7		.01	
Blind Persons Act, 1920 ... ..	2,334		1.49	
Conversion of Waste Water Closets ... ..	500		.32	
Smoke Abatement ... ..	17		.01	
Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926 ...	8		.01	
Salaries ... ..	3,937		2.51	
National Health Insurance Contributions ...	28		.02	
Superannuation Contributions ... ..	237		.15	
Proportion of Council House Expenses ...	77		.05	
"The Uplands" Maintenance ... ..	582		.37	
Establishment ... ..	530		.34	
Maternity and Child Welfare ... ..	7,763		4.94	
Mental Deficiency ... ..	6,057		3.86	
Lunatics and Lunatic Asylums ... ..	3,052		1.94	
Maintenance of Epileptics ... ..	70		.04	
Midwives Act ... ..	823		.52	
Medical Inspection of School Children ...	3,850		2.45	
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE:—				
Hospitals ... ..	12,956		8.25	
Convalescent Homes ... ..	36		.02	
Maintenance of Mental Cases in Asylums ...	15,600		9.94	
	<u>£89,452</u>		<u>4-8.98</u>	



# Annual Report, 1938.

## GENERAL STATISTICS.

AREA 2,500 acres.

POPULATION: Census, 1931—84,406.

Estimate Mid-Year, 1938—79,670.

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES: 1931—20,180.

1938—21,262.

NUMBER OF FAMILIES OR SEPARATE OCCUPIERS: 1931—21,446.

RATEABLE VALUE (October, 1938): £402,744.

ESTIMATED PRODUCE OF A PENNY RATE: £1,570.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1938.

			Totals.	Males.	Females.
BIRTHS: Legitimate	...	...	1,179	602	577
Illegitimate	...	...	41	24	17
			<hr/> 1,220	<hr/> 626	<hr/> 594

BIRTH RATE: 15.3 per 1,000 of the population.

DEATHS: 894. Males, 473; Females, 421.

DEATH RATE: 11.09 per 1,000 of the population.

DEATHS OF INFANTS under one year of age: Total, 76. Males, 49; Females, 27.

INFANT MORTALITY RATE per 1,000 births: Total, 62.2. Legitimate, 59.3; Illegitimate, 146.3.

DEATHS FROM:—

					Rate per 1,000 of Population.
				Number.	
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	1	0.01
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	—
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	...	...	...	8	0.10
Diphtheria	...	...	...	11	0.13
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	—	—
Influenza	...	...	...	13	0.16
Cancer	...	...	...	127	1.59
Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	102	1.28
Pulmonary Tuberculosis...	...	...	...	56	0.70
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	8	0.10



BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY,  
MATERNAL DEATH-RATES, AND CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN  
INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1938.

	Smethwick.	England and Wales.	122 County Boro's and Great Towns including London.	143 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administra- tive County
Rates per 1,000 Population.					
BIRTHS:—					
Live ... ..	15.5	15.1	15.0	15.4	13.4
Still ... ..	0.45	0.60	0.65	0.60	0.48
DEATHS:—					
All Causes ... ..	11.0	11.6	11.7	11.0	11.4
Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	0.01	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06
Scarlet fever ... ..	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Diphtheria ... ..	0.13	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05
Influenza ... ..	0.16	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.06
NOTIFICATIONS:—					
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever ... ..	2.22	2.41	2.60	2.58	2.05
Diphtheria ... ..	2.29	1.58	1.85	1.53	1.90
Enteric fever ... ..	0.01	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas ... ..	0.47	0.40	0.46	0.39	0.46
Pneumonia ... ..	2.04	0.10	1.28	0.98	0.93
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.					
Deaths under 1 year of age	62	53	57	51	57
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age ... ..	6.5	5.5	7.8	3.6	13.1
MATERNAL MORTALITY:—					
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	2.46	0.89	Not available		
Others ... ..	0.82	2.19			
Total ... ..	3.28	3.08			
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still).					
MATERNAL MORTALITY:—					
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	2.39	0.85	Not available		
Others ... ..	0.79	2.11			
Total ... ..	3.18	2.97			
NOTIFICATIONS:—					
Puerperal fever ... ..	8.75	14.42	18.08	12.51	3.53
Puerperal pyrexia ... ..					15.46

The total deaths registered in Smethwick numbered 496; of these 14 were non-residents and were transferred to other districts, while 412 Smethwick residents died in other areas, and have been added to the number registered in the Borough. The net deaths thus number 894, giving a rate of 11.09 per 1,000 of the population, as against 11.58 per 1,000 in the previous year.

Analysis of the age-groups shows that the percentage of deaths of children under five years of age within the past five years was 10.7, 9.1, 13.4, 11.1 and 11.7 respectively.

At the other end of the scale, the percentage of deaths of persons over 65 years of age was 47.9, as compared with 47.9, 45.8, 41.5, 41.7 and 42.7 in the five preceding years.

The following table shows the death-rates for various towns in the Midlands corrected for differences in age and sex distribution:—

			Registrar-General's			
			Crude Death-rate.	Comparability Factor.	Standardised Death-rate.	
Coventry	...	...	9.8	1.21	...	11.8
Birmingham	...	...	10.88	1.10	...	11.99
Walsall	...	...	10.99	1.12	...	12.39
Smethwick	...	...	11.09	1.14	...	12.54
Leicester	...	...	11.21	1.02	...	11.43
Stoke-on-Trent	...	...	11.3	1.22	...	14.2
Burton-on-Trent	...	...	11.3	0.98	...	11.07
Wolverhampton	...	...	11.3	1.08	...	12.2
Derby	...	...	11.6	1.04	...	12.1
West Bromwich	...	...	12.14	1.14	...	13.83
Nottingham	...	...	12.72	1.03	...	13.10

#### COMPARISON OF VITAL STATISTICS IN THE VARIOUS WARDS.

Ward		Estimated Population	Total Acreage	Density	Birth-rate	Infant Mortality rate	General Death-rate
Spon Lane	...	12,657	515	24.5	15.8	50.0	11.5
Sandwell	...	8,900	411	21.7	19.9	84.7	12.8
Uplands	...	11,562	255	45.3	13.0	66.7	10.1
Bearwood	...	7,059	190	37.2	10.8	13.5	14.9
Cape	...	8,454	158	53.5	16.1	22.1	13.1
Victoria	...	7,956	176	45.2	17.3	58.0	11.5
Soho	...	7,617	224	34.0	16.9	108.5	12.1
Warley	...	15,474	571	27.1	13.9	69.7	7.9
Totals	...	79,670	2,500	31.9	15.3	62.2	11.09

# REVIEW OF VITAL STATISTICS IN SMETHWICK DURING THE PAST 25 YEARS.

Year		Estimated population	Birth rate per 1,000	Death rate per 1,000	Infant mor- tality rate per 1,000 births	Zymotic death rate per 1,000	Death rates per 1,000			
							Respiratory diseases	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Non- Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Cancer
1914	...	72,975	27.5	14.13	106	1.67	3.4	1.26	0.19	9.89
1915	...	72,439	25.88	13.8	109.3	2.13	3.02	1.10	0.21	0.98
1916	...	78,335	22.04	11.08	93.8	0.77	3.33	1.20	0.15	0.84
1917	...	78,335	20.32	11.5	99.8	0.71	3.9	1.30	0.05	0.86
1918	...	76,056	20.28	15.63	102.4	0.6	3.56	1.43	0.16	0.9
1919	...	73,000	22.19	13.00	84.6	0.45	3.2	1.19	0.12	1.03
1920	...	75,027	27.08	11.16	82.18	0.64	2.4	0.81	0.31	0.92
1921	...	77,400	25.46	11.11	88.28	0.69	2.27	0.68	0.22	0.85
1922	...	78,140	21.39	11.22	86.12	0.67	2.31	0.78	0.32	1.13
1923	...	78,450	20.24	10.82	65.49	0.79	1.82	0.93	0.17	1.04
1924	...	78,790	20.19	10.12	74.79	0.41	1.87	0.67	0.17	1.20
1925	...	78,840	18.36	10.36	80.11	0.52	1.91	0.77	0.24	1.10
1926	...	76,940	18.35	10.39	65.86	0.37	1.88	0.79	0.10	1.26
1927	...	76,870	17.0	11.9	78.6	0.61	2.26	0.84	0.05	1.19
1928	...	86,870	17.1	10.0	63	0.28	1.52	0.69	0.10	1.11
1929	...	85,120	17.8	13.4	79.8	0.70	2.58	0.95	0.12	1.23
1930	...	85,120	18.0	10.4	66.4	0.41	1.17	0.67	0.11	1.28
1931	...	85,390	18.0	11.2	69.6	0.57	1.63	0.62	0.10	1.24
1932	...	84,740	15.2	10.5	78.4	0.23	1.36	0.52	0.09	1.53
1933	...	84,670	14.4	10.8	62.0	0.16	1.60	0.62	0.05	1.44
1934	...	83,600	15.7	10.6	56.9	0.22	1.60	0.57	0.14	1.20
1935	...	82,600	14.7	11.1	60.9	0.31	1.10	0.59	0.06	1.56
1936	...	81,300	15.5	10.5	59.9	0.18	1.60	0.54	0.02	1.47
1937	...	80,380	14.6	11.5	52.5	0.27	1.64	0.70	0.02	1.35
1938	...	79,670	15.3	11.0	62.2	0.25	1.28	0.70	0.10	1.59

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1938

DISEASE.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.														Cases removed to Hospital.	TOTAL DEATHS.													
	AGE GROUPS.															AGE GROUPS.													
	All ages	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and upwards	All ages		0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and upwards		
Small Pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
Enteric Fever	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
Scarlet Fever	177	..	2	4	11	15	81	33	11	14	4	2	..	88	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
Diphtheria	185	..	7	9	8	12	68	36	14	21	5	3	2	136	11	..	1	3	3	2	1	..	..	..	..	..			
Erysipelas	38	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	7	6	5	17	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
Puerperal Pyrexia	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	14	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
Cerebro-spinal Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	2	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..			
Encephalitis Lethargica	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
Anterior Poliomyelitis	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
Polio-encephalitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
Malaria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
Dysentery	3	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
Primary Pneumonia	141	8	3	9	3	2	24	2	6	30	14	18	22	8	45	3	2	..	..	2	..	1	0	2	13	13			
Influenzal Pneumonia	22	..	..	2	1	..	1	..	..	6	5	6	1	1	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	4	4			
Food Poisoning	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
TOTALS	603	23	12	25	24	31	174	72	38	91	37	34	42	244	71	6	2	1	3	3	4	1	3	12	2	17	17		

**SMETHWICK & OLDBURY JOINT ISOLATION HOSPITAL.**  
**STATEMENT OF CASES ADMITTED AND DISCHARGED DURING THE YEAR 1938.**

	In Hospital 31/12/37.				Admitted during 1938.				Discharged, etc, during 1938.				In Hospital 31/12/38.			
	M.	F.	Ch.	T.	M.	F.	Ch.	T.	M.	F.	Ch.	T.	M.	F.	Ch.	T.
<b>SMETHWICK :</b>																
Diphtheria	...	1	18	19	8	26	102	136	8	27	106	141	...	...	14	14
Scarlet Fever	2	...	2	4	5	5	78	88	7	5	74	86	...	...	6	6
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	14	...	...	14	14	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	1	...	...	1	6	2	...	8	6	2	...	8	1	...	...	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	...	...	3	3	...	...	...	...
Chicken Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	...	...	5	5	...	...	...	...
Cellulitis	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Typhoid	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	...
Tonsillitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Mumps ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Scabies ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Streptococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
<b>OLDBURY :</b>																
Diphtheria	...	1	15	16	3	1	35	39	3	2	46	51	...	...	4	4
Scarlet Fever	...	1	2	3	2	2	25	29	2	3	27	32	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	2	...	2	...	1	1	2	...	3	1	4	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	2
Meningitis	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
<b>ROWLEY REGIS :</b>																
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
<b>TIPTON :</b>																
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
<b>Totals</b>	3	5	37	45	29	40	276	345	31	45	286	362	1	...	27	28



## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

---

### SCARLET FEVER.

The number of cases increased to 177 from the low level of 117 in the previous year. There were few severe cases and no deaths occurred. Among children of school age, there were 119 cases compared with 66 last year. The incidence was not marked in any particular school.

Eighty-eight patients or 49.7% of the notified cases were treated in hospital. The age incidence of the persons attacked will be found on page 21.

The incidence of, and mortality from Scarlet Fever during the past ten years is as follows:—

Year	Cases notified	Attack rate per 1,000 population	Number of deaths	Case mortality per cent.
1929 .....	162	1.9	—	—
1930 .....	259	3.0	2	0.8
1931 .....	140	1.6	—	—
1932 .....	101	1.1	—	—
1933 .....	180	2.1	—	—
1934 .....	206	2.4	1	0.4
1935 .....	341	4.1	3	0.88
1936 .....	220	2.7	2	0.9
1937 .....	117	1.4	2	1.7
1938 .....	177	2.2	—	—

### DIPHTHERIA.

The number of cases notified decreased slightly to 183, suggesting that we are now on the downgrade of the epidemic curve. The incidence was not confined to one particular part of the town.

The danger to life and the permanent damage to health is not sufficiently realised by parents, too many of whom still fail to recognise the need for protecting the young child, or to appreciate how simple and how safe is the method of immunisation against diphtheria. Our efforts to protect the population at risk continued during the year and the response was definitely more encouraging than in previous years. During the year, we inoculated 277 children in the Infant Welfare Centres, and 525 children in the Infant and Junior Schools.

As in previous years, the parents of every child born in the Borough and also of every Smethwick child born outside the Borough are written to on the first anniversary of its birth, and offered a definite time and place for free immunization. An individual personal letter is sent in each case, and no child has to be brought farther than about a mile to an immunization clinic.

Over 6,000 children have been immunised during the past nine years.

During the past year the type of disease was more virulent; a number of very severe cases occurred and there were eleven deaths. There were 105 cases in children of school age. The number of cases treated in hospital was 136, or 73.5% of the cases notified. The age incidence of the persons attacked may be found on the table on page 21.

The incidence of, and mortality from Diphtheria during the past ten years is as follows:—

Year	Cases notified	Attack rate per 1,000 population	Number of deaths	Case mortality per cent.
1929 .....	143	1.6	2	1.7
1930 .....	281	3.3	21	7.5
1931 .....	211	2.4	16	7.6
1932 .....	77	0.9	6	7.7
1933 .....	70	0.8	1	1.4
1934 .....	108	1.29	4	3.7
1935 .....	130	1.57	7	5.3
1936 .....	142	1.74	3	2.1
1937 .....	210	2.61	8	3.8
1938 .....	183	2.29	11	6.0

Antitoxin is supplied free to medical practitioners in the Borough. 179 phials of 8,000 units being issued during the year, compared with 190 last year, and 140 in 1936.

## OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

There were 38 cases of Erysipelas during the year compared with 28 of the previous year. Two cases of Enteric Fever and two cases of Cerebro-spinal Fever were notified. No notifications of Smallpox, Encephalitis Lethargica, Anterior Poliomyelitis or Polioencephalitis were received.

As regards Smallpox, the Vaccination Officers' return for the twelve months ending 30th June, 1938, and for previous years, is given below. It will be noted that comparatively little use is being made of the obsolete Vaccination Acts, and only 483 children were successfully vaccinated.

## VACCINATION RETURNS FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS.

Year ending 30th June.	Births.	Successful Vaccinations.	Insusceptible	Conscientious objectors.	Died unvaccinated.	Postponed by medical certificate.	Gone to other districts.	Gone— no trace.	Outstanding.	Percentage of conscientious objectors.*
1929	996	471	3	364	60	14	6	31	47	38.9
1930	950	416	4	377	53	28	3	26	43	42.0
1931	1,256	512	2	523	62	66	5	34	52	48.8
1932	1,071	454	2	460	62	26	7	29	31	45.6
1933	915	356	2	434	35	25	7	27	29	49.3
1934	860	352	3	429	35	8	9	13	11	52.0
1935	988	369	5	521	50	8	4	16	15	55.5
1936	953	370	2	518	36	9	10	6	2	56.5
1937	969	369	2	528	42	3	4	9	12	56.9
1938	1,217	483	4	624	75	3	8	12	8	54.6

\* In calculating these percentages, the number dying unvaccinated has been deducted from the total number of births.

## PNEUMONIA.

The notifications and deaths from pneumonia during the last ten years are as follows:--

Year	PRIMARY PNEUMONIA		INFLUENZAL PNEUMONIA	
	Notifications.	Deaths.	Notifications.	Deaths.
1929 .....	278	71	95	51
1930 .....	141	29	15	4
1931 .....	139	33	34	15
1932 .....	102	21	43	13
1933 .....	149	24	36	18
1934 .....	221	44	24	14
1935 .....	150	39	24	13
1936 .....	129	35	40	4
1937 .....	103	38	39	18
1938 .....	141	45	22	10

The incidence of the non-notifiable diseases as shown from the weekly reports made by the head teachers shows a marked falling off, and none of these diseases assumed epidemic proportions at any time during the year. There was one death from measles and none from whooping cough during the year.

Influenza, however, was very prevalent. The number of deaths nevertheless fell to 13 compared with 38 last year, and 8, 20, 17, 33 and 17 in the five preceding years.

## SMETHWICK AND OLDBURY ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

In September, 1937, the hospital extensions were completed and two new ward blocks became available for use. These consist of one small cubicle block of ten beds and one large block of twenty-one beds made up of two six-bed wards, nine single cubicles and a small operating room. It was therefore possible to institute more satisfactory isolation than had been possible in the past. Both of the new ward blocks were fairly fully occupied with various types of infection and in addition " B " block was used for cases of diphtheria.

The provision of a number of cubicle wards enabled us to take in a wider variety of infectious diseases. In the past the use of the hospital has been confined almost entirely to diphtheria, scarlet fever and tuberculosis, but during the past winter it has been possible to admit in addition measles, whooping cough, erysipelas, chickenpox, certain types of pneumonia and infective streptococcal diseases.

Although the number of beds in the hospital now appears to be adequate for the needs of the two Authorities it is still impossible to make full use of these beds owing to the impossibility of obtaining sufficient nursing staff.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION.

The policy pursued by the department is the same as for the past two years. Immediately on receipt of a notification of infectious disease, the premises are visited by a sanitary inspector. He makes arrangements for the efficient isolation of the patient, or alternately for removal of the patient to the hospital. In many cases, however, this has been done by the practitioner in charge before the arrival of the inspector. The latter notes the circumstances in connection with the case, such as occupation of patient and family, sources of milk supply, etc., probable source of infection, etc. Any insanitary conditions noted are dealt with at once. Leaflets of instruction as to the prevention of spread of infection are left with the householder, and the Education Committee notified of all children of school age in infected houses.

On the termination of the illness, the householder is recommended to disinfect the premises by thorough cleaning, using only soap and water. In the case of the commoner infectious diseases, chemical disinfection is neither carried out nor recommended. Exceptions are such diseases as pulmonary tuberculosis and typhoid fever, where thorough chemical disinfection is carried out.

It is felt that the use of disinfectants gives a false sense of security, and does nothing to check the spread of infectious disease; it tends to lead householders in some cases to neglect the more important matters of thorough washing with soap and water. We are satisfied that the best disinfectants are sunlight, fresh air, soap and water and advise the householder to place reliance on these agencies, and not on chemical disinfection.

The number of lots of bedding, etc., removed for disinfection during the past year was 186, comprising 1,353 articles. The following table gives a classified list for the reasons for disinfection of premises during the past five years.

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Scarlet Fever ... ..	6	3	3	—	8
Diphtheria ... ..	1	1	—	3	4
Tuberculosis ... ..	112	126	118	121	130
Enteric Fever... ..	1	—	1	—	1
Puerperal Fever ... ..	—	—	1	—	4
Cancer ... ..	17	15	13	13	17
Schools ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Scabies and verminous conditions ... ..	64	64	26	40	39
Other causes ... ..	93*	65	42	11	41
	<hr/> 294	<hr/> 274	<hr/> 204	<hr/> 188	<hr/> 244

\* Unemployed Clubs, etc.



## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Arrangements are made for the necessary routine bacteriological examinations to be carried out by the Public Health Laboratory of the University of Birmingham. The number of specimens examined during the year, and the results, are set out below:—

Nature of Specimen					Number	Positive	Negative
Throat Swabs for Diphtheria Bacilli—							
Suspects	...	...	...	...	724	120	604
Contacts	...	...	...	...	115	12	103
Nasal Swabs for Diphtheria Bacilli—							
Suspects	...	...	...	...	20	5	15
Contacts	...	...	...	...	10	3	7
Blood for B. Typhosus	...	...	...	...	15	5	10
Blood for B. Para-Typhosus	...	...	...	...	15	5	10
Urine for Zondek Ascheim Test	...	...	...	...	10	3	7
Urine for B. Typhosus	...	...	...	...	12	—	12
Urine for B. Para-Typhosus	...	...	...	...	12	1	11
Faeces for B. Typhosus	...	...	...	...	13	—	13
Faeces for B. Para-Typhosus	...	...	...	...	10	3	7
Films for detection of Gonococci	...	...	...	...	7	3	4
Sputum for Tubercle Bacilli	...	...	...	...	540	61	479
Milk for Bacterial Count	...	...	...	...	88	—	—
Milk for Tubercle Bacilli	...	...	...	...	185	12	173
					1,776	233	1,455

In addition to the above, 57 examinations of sputum were made during the year, in connection with the patients in the Tuberculosis Pavilion at Holly Lane Hospital, 47 giving positive and 10 negative results.

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TUBERCULOSIS OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1938.

### NOTIFICATIONS.

Ninety-eight primary notifications were received during the year, 78 of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 20 of other forms of the disease.

The following table shows the notifications received and the attack-rate for each year since the commencement of the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1912:—

		Notifications received:		Attack Rate per 1,000 of the population.	
		Pulmonary.	Other forms.	Pulmonary.	Other forms.
1912	.....	307	—	4.1	—
1913	.....	318	50	4.3	0.68
1914	.....	143	167	1.9	2.2
1915	.....	229	103	3.1	1.4
1916	.....	204	117	2.6	1.4
1917	.....	206	126	2.6	1.6
1918	.....	194	80	2.5	1.0
1919	.....	260	60	3.5	0.8
1920	.....	146	31	1.9	0.4
1921	.....	88	14	1.1	0.18
1922	.....	112	17	1.4	0.2
1923	.....	80	18	1.02	0.2
1924	.....	110	18	1.39	0.2
1925	.....	74	24	0.9	0.3
1926	.....	94	16	1.2	0.2
1927	.....	87	38	1.1	0.49
1928	.....	73	25	0.8	0.29
1929	.....	108	34	1.2	0.4
1930	.....	76	19	0.89	0.22
1931	.....	80	29	0.93	0.33
1932	.....	65	20	0.76	0.23
1933	.....	55	16	0.64	0.19
1934	.....	72	19	0.85	0.22
1935	.....	95	19	1.15	0.23
1936	.....	81	21	0.99	0.25
1937	.....	77	4	0.95	0.04
1938	.....	78	20	0.97	0.25

The deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis during the year numbered 64, all of which had been previously notified. This compares with 59 deaths last year, all of which had been previously notified.

The following table shows the total NEW CASES during the year, i.e., all PRIMARY NOTIFICATIONS and also other NEW CASES coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health from the death returns or otherwise, and also the deaths registered during the year:—

## TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Other forms		Pulmonary.		Other forms.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 to 1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1 to 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
5 to 10	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 to 15	—	1	3	—	—	1	1	1
15 to 20	6	4	2	2	4	2	—	—
20 to 25	5	6	2	1	—	7	—	—
25 to 35	12	12	—	2	4	6	—	—
35 to 45	7	4	2	2	6	2	—	—
45 to 55	8	3	—	1	9	1	1	—
55 to 65	7	5	1	1	9	1	—	—
65 upwards	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	—
TOTALS	47	39	10	11	34	20	3	2

The discrepancy between the number of new cases and the number of notifications received is accounted for by cases transferred from other areas.

The number of cases of Tuberculosis remaining on the Register of Notifications at the 31st December, 1938, was 580, viz:—

Pulmonary, Males ...	248	Non-Pulmonary, Males ...	56
Females ...	214	Females ...	62
	<hr/> 462		<hr/> 118

#### DEATH-RATE FROM TUBERCULOSIS PER 1,000 POPULATION

Five-Year Period.	Pulmonary.	Other Forms.	All Forms.
1912-1916 .....	1.04	0.24	1.28
1913-1917 .....	1.12	0.18	1.30
1914-1918 .....	1.20	0.15	1.35
1915-1919 .....	1.20	0.14	1.34
1916-1920 .....	1.14	0.17	1.31
1917-1921 .....	1.03	0.20	1.23
1918-1922 .....	0.93	0.24	1.17
1919-1923 .....	0.86	0.25	1.11
1920-1924 .....	0.76	0.26	1.02
1921-1925 .....	0.75	0.24	0.99
1922-1926 .....	0.79	0.20	0.99
1923-1927 .....	0.80	0.15	0.95
1924-1928 .....	0.75	0.14	0.89
1925-1929 .....	0.76	0.12	0.88
1926-1930 .....	0.78	0.10	0.88
1927-1931 .....	0.75	0.10	0.85
1928-1932 .....	0.69	0.11	0.80
1929-1933 .....	0.67	0.10	0.77
1930-1934 .....	0.60	0.10	0.70
1931-1935 .....	0.58	0.09	0.67
1932-1936 .....	0.56	0.07	0.64
1933-1937 .....	0.60	0.06	0.67
1934-1938 .....	0.64	0.07	0.70

The above figures which show the death-rates from tuberculosis in Smethwick for the past 27 years, are very informative. In order to make the results more comparable, and to smooth the curve of inequalities due to non-recurring causes, such as influenza epidemics, the figures shown are for five-yearly periods and not for single years.

## Return showing the work of the Dispensary during the year 1938.

DIAGNOSIS.	PULMONARY.						NON-PULMONARY.						TOTAL.						GRAND TOTAL.
	Adults.			Children.			Adults.			Children.			Adults.			Children.			
	M.	F.		M.	F.		M.	F.		M.	F.		M.	F.		M.	F.		
A.—NEW CASES examined during the year (excluding contacts):																			
(a) Definitely tuberculous ...	33	30		—	2		4	6		3	—		37	36	3	2	78		
(b) Diagnosis not completed ...	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—		14	10	7	3	34		
(c) Non-tuberculous ...	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—		43	54	51	20	168		
B.—CONTACTS examined during the year :—																			
(a) Definitely tuberculous ...	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Diagnosis not completed ...	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—		3	0	3	6	21		
(c) Non-tuberculous ...	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—		27	57	33	37	154		
C.—CASES written off the Dispensary Register as :—																			
(a) Recovered ...	7	2		2	—		2	—		3	—		9	2	5	—	16		
(b) Non-tuberculous (including any cases previously diagnos- ed and entered on the Dis- pensary Register as tub'rculous)	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—		82	117	86	58	343		
D.—NUMBER OF CASES on Dispen- sary Register on Dec. 31st:																			
(a) Definitely tuberculous ...	133	126		4	9		20	29		23	16		153	155	27	25	300		
(b) Diagnosis not completed ...	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—		17	10	10	9	55		



1.—Number of cases on Dispensary Register on 1st January ...	376
2.—Number of cases transferred from other areas and cases returned after discharge under Head 3 in previous years ...	5
3.—Number of cases transferred to other areas, cases not desiring further assistance under the tuberculosis scheme, and cases "lost sight of" ...	13
4.—Cases written off during the year as Dead (all causes) ...	49
5.—Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts) ...	2,959
6.—Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on 31st December ...	89
7.—Number of consultations with medical practitioners:—	
(a) Personal ...	25
(b) Other ...	393
8.—Number of visits by Tuberculosis Officers to homes (including personal consultations) ...	31
9.—Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to homes for Dispensary purposes ...	1,504
10.—Number of:—	
(a) Specimens of Sputum, etc., examined ...	291
(b) X-ray examinations made ...	794
in connection with Dispensary work.	
11.—Number of "Recovered" cases restored to Dispensary Register, and included in A(a) and A(b) above ...	—
12.—Number of "T.B. plus" cases on Dispensary Register on 31st December ...	139
Number of Dispensaries for the treatment of Tuberculosis (excluding centres used only for special forms of treatment).	
Provided by the Council ...	1
Provided by Voluntary Bodies ...	Nil

TABLE SHEWING ADMISSIONS to, and DISCHARGES from, SANATORIA during the Twelve Months ended  
December 31st, 1938

NAME OF INSTITUTION	Number of Cases in Sanatorium on January 1st, 1938.			Number of Cases admitted during 1938.			Cases discharged or transferred to the Chest Clinic.			Number of Cases in Sanatorium on December 31st, 1938.			Number of Deaths.	
	Males	Females	Children	Total	Males	Females	Children	Total	Males	Females	Children	Total	Males	Females
Holly Lane	7	7	...	14	28	23	...	51	19	20	...	39	11	7
Romsley Hill	7	6	...	13	19	19	...	38	19	17	...	36	2	2
The Woodlands, Northfield	1	2	4	7	1	1	4	6	2	3	2	11	...	...
The Forelands, Bromsgrove	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	6	...	...	2	2	...	...
Rl. Cripples Hospital, Vicarage Rd.	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	2	...	...	4	...	...
Hallam Hospital, West Bromwich	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...
Crossley Sanatorium, Cheshire	1	2	...	3	1	4	...	5	2	6	...	8	...	...
Creaton Sanatorium, N'thampton	...	...	...	...	2	4	...	6	2	1	...	3	...	...
Royal Nat. Sanatorium, Ventnor.	...	1	...	1	...	3	...	3	...	2	...	2	...	...
Everfield Chest Hospital,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St Leonards on-Sea	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...
Children's Hospital, Birmingham	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	...	...	3	3	...	...
St. Chad's Hospital, Birmingham..	...	...	...	...	14	11	1	26	11	10	...	21	4	...
Totals	17	18	4	39	68	65	15	148	50	50	11	129	10	17
										14	7	31		0

**Number of Beds available for the treatment of Tuberculosis on the 31st  
December, in Institutions belonging to the Council.**

Name of Institution.	For Pulmonary Cases.		For Non-Pulmonary Cases.		Total.
	Adults.	Children under 15	Adults	Children under 15	
Holly Lane Sanatorium, Smethwick	20	...	...	...	20
Romsley Hill Sanatorium, Nr. Halesowen, Worcs.	17	...	...	...	17
[See Note]					

**NOTE.**

The particulars shown on the attached return under this heading relate to beds in the Institutions named in respect of which the Council have a definite agreement to retain the use of the number of beds specified, although in no case does the Institution actually belong to the Council.

Holly Lane Sanatorium belongs to the Smethwick and Oldbury Joint Hospital Committee.

Romsley Hill Sanatorium belongs to the Birmingham City Council.

In addition to the above, beds have been used during the year for :—

*Pulmonary Cases.*

At Creaton Sanatorium, Northampton; Crossley Sanatorium, Cheshire; Royal National Hospital for Consumption, Ventnor, I.O.W.; Eversfield Chest Hospital, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

*Non-Pulmonary.*

At Birmingham Royal Cripples' Hospitals (i.e., the "Woodlands," Northfield, the "Forelands," Bromsgrove, and the Vicarage Road Hospital, Birmingham).

**Return showing the extent of Residential Treatment and Observation  
during the year in Institutions (other than Poor Law Institutions)  
approved for the treatment of Tuberculosis.**

		In Institutions on Jan. 1st.	Admitt'd during the year.	Dis- charged during the year.	Died in the Insti- tutions.	In Insti- tutions on Dec. 31st
Number of doubtfully tuberculous cases admit- ted for observation	Adult Males ...	...	1	1	...	...
	Adult Females ...	...	1	1	...	...
	Children ...	...	1	1	...	...
	Total ...	...	3	3	...	...
Number of patients suffering from pulmo- nary tuberculosis	Adult Males ...	17	60	51	15	11
	Adult Females ...	16	59	52	10	13
	Children ...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total ...	33	119	103	25	24
Number of Patients suf- fering from non-pul- monary tuberculosis	Adult Males ...	1	7	8	...	...
	Adult Females ...	1	5	6	...	...
	Children ...	6	8	10	...	4
	Total ...	8	20	24	...	4
Grand Total ... ..		41	142	130	25	28

**Return showing the extent of Residential Treatment provided during the  
year in Poor Law Institutions for persons chargeable to the Council**

		In Institu- tions on Jan. 1st.	Admitted during the year	Discharged during the year	Died in the Insti- tutions.	In Institu- tions on Dec. 31st
Number of patients suf- fering from pulmonary tuberculosis	Adult Males ...	...	1	...	...	1
	Adult Females ...	...	...	...	...	...
	Children ...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total ...	...	1	...	...	1
Number of patients suf- fering from non-pulmon- ary tuberculosis	Adult Males ...	...	...	...	...	...
	Adult Females ...	...	...	...	...	...
	Children ...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total ...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand Total ... ..		...	1	...	...	1

**Return showing the results of observation of doubtfully tuberculous cases  
discharged during the year from Institutions approved for the  
treatment of Tuberculosis.**

Diagnosis on discharge from observation.	For Pulmonary Tuberculosis.						For Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.						Totals.		
	Stay under 4 weeks.			Stay over 4 weeks.			Stay under 4 weeks.			Stay over 4 weeks.					
	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.
Tuberculous ...	...	...	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Non-tuberculous...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Doubtful ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Totals ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	1



Return showing the immediate results of treatment of definitely tuberculous patients discharged during the year from Institutions approved for the treatment of Tuberculosis.

Classification on admission to the Institution.	Condition at time of discharge.	Duration of Residential Treatment in the Institution.												Grand Totals.
		*Under 3 months.			3-6 months.			6-12 months.			More than 12 months.			Totals.
		M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	
PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.	Quiescent ...	1	3	...	4	9	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	19
	Not quiescent ...	2	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
	Died in Institution	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Class T.B. minus Group 1.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Class T.B. plus Group 2.	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.	Quiescent ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Not quiescent ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Died in Institution	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Class T.B. plus Group 3.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Class T.B. plus Group 3.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.	Quiescent ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
	Not quiescent ...	3	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
	Died in Institution	2	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Class T.B. plus Group 3.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Class T.B. plus Group 3.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals (Pulmonary)		11	15	...	23	25	...	4	10	...	2	2	...	92
NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.	Quiescent ...	1	...	1	2	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	7
	Not quiescent ...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	5
	Died in Institution	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bones and Joints.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Abdominal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.	Quiescent ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Not quiescent ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Died in Institution	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Other Organs.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Other Organs.	2	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	5
NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.	Quiescent ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Not quiescent ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Died in Institution	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Peripheral Glands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Peripheral Glands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals (Non-Pulmonary)		3	2	...	4	1	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	17



## PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Supplementary Annual Return showing in summary form (a) the condition at the end of 1938 of all Patients remaining on the Dispensary Register; and (b) the reasons for the removal of all cases written off the Register.

The Table is arranged according to the years in which the patients were first entered on the Dispensary Register as definite cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, and their classification at that time.

[illegible]













## PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

It was not necessary to take action under these Regulations during the year.

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, Section 62.

It was found necessary to take action under this Act during the year in one case.

## AFTER-CARE WORK.

After-care work has been carried out by the Staff at the Chest Clinic, and the following is a summary of the work done during the year:

Patients receiving loan of beds and bedding	...	...	10
Patients receiving loan of shelters, including beds	...	...	4
Advanced cases on domiciliary treatment receiving loans of bed-pans, air cushions, atomisers, etc.	...	...	79

## HOME NURSING AND EXTRA NOURISHMENT.

In 71 cases, extra nourishment in the form of grants of milk was given during the year, as against 49 cases in 1937, and 53 in 1936.

## DENTAL TREATMENT.

By arrangement with the Education Committee, the services of one of the school dentists is available for the dental treatment of Tuberculosis patients. Under this scheme 27 patients were dealt with during the year, all being seen at Holly Lane Hospital. Two patients were provided with dentures.

## RECREATION.

Contributions of books, periodicals, etc., for the patients' library will be welcomed from anyone reading this report.

## Mental Deficiency Acts.

The following is an extract from the Return of Mental Defectives as on 1st January, 1939, submitted to the Board of Control:—

	M.	F.	Total
1. Number of Cases in Institutions under "Order" (excluding cases on licence)	39	23	62
2. Number of Cases in Institutions not under "Order"...	5	5	10
3. Number of Cases on Licence from Institutions ...	2	4	6
4. Number of Cases under Guardianship ...	5	4	9
5. Number of Cases in "places of safety"	—	—	—
6. Number of Cases under Statutory Supervision ...	106	77	183
7. Number of Cases in receipt of Poor Law Relief:—			
(a) In Institutions...	2	3	5
(b) Domiciliary ...	4	5	9

The above table shows that there is a total of 78 Cases in Institutions, as follows:—

	M.	F.	Total
Monyhull Colony, Birmingham ...	21	20	41
Great Barr Park Colony ...	7	8	15
Erdington House, Birmingham ...	12	3	15
Ross Poor Law Institution ...	3	—	3
Inc. of National Institutions for the Care of Feeble-minded, Stoke Park ...	1	1	2
Besford Court Mental Welfare Home ...	1	—	1
Hortham Colony ...	1	—	1
	<hr/> 46	<hr/> 32	<hr/> 78

## Venereal Diseases.

By arrangement, treatment is available for Smethwick patients at the General Hospital, Birmingham. Male and Female Departments are open on the following days:—

CLINICS: Every morning, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Every evening (excepting Saturdays and Sundays)  
from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

INTERMEDIATE TREATMENT:—

Week-days, from 8.15 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Saturdays, from 8.15 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Sundays, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The number of Smethwick residents dealt with at the Centre during the year was 130, compared with 100 in 1937, 109 in 1936, 105 in 1935, 118 in 1934, 114 in 1933, 85 in 1932, 103 in 1931, 110 in 1930, 111 in 1929, 82 in 1928, 85 in 1927, 83 in 1926, 89 in 1925, 64 in 1924, 61 in 1923, 74 in 1922, 73 in 1921, and 120 in 1920.

The Report of the Medical Officer of the Treatment Centre for the year under review shows:—

A. Number of Smethwick patients dealt with during the year, at or in connection with the Out-Patient Clinic for the first time and found to be suffering from:—

Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	13
Soft Chancre	...	...	...	...	...	—
Gonorrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	47
Conditions other than Venereal	...	...	...	...	...	70
						<hr/> 130

B. Total Number of attendances at the Out-Patient Clinic of all patients residing in Smethwick ... 4,973

C. Aggregate number of "In-patient days" of all patients residing in Smethwick ... 166

Pathological examinations made at the General Hospital during the year 1938 relating to patients residing in Smethwick:—

For detection of Sp. Palliada—Films	...	4
For detection of Gonococci—Films	...	345
For detection of Gonococci—Cultures	...	333
For Wasserman Reaction	...	240
Blood, Complement Fixation Test	...	124
Blood, Van-den-berg Test	...	11
Blood for Sigma Test	...	20
Cerebral-Spinal Fluid, Cell Count	...	5
Cerebral-Spinal Fluid W.R.	...	5
		<hr/> 1,087

In addition, 118 tests for Wasserman Reaction and 29 examinations for the detection of gonococci were made at the City of Birmingham Bacteriological Laboratory.



## General Provision of Health Services in the Borough.

### HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

#### (1) GENERAL: —

St. Chad's Hospital situated in Hagley Road, Birmingham, contains 145 beds for the reception of medical, surgical, maternity and gynaecological patients.

TABLE SHOWING THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE ACCOMMODATION FOR SICK  
AND MATERNITY CASES AND THE NUMBER OF BEDS OCCUPIED ON THE  
31st DECEMBER, 1938.

Classification of Wards.			Number of Wards.			BEDS.												
						MEN.			WOMEN.			CHILDREN (under 16 years of age.)				TOTAL.		
						Pro- vided.	Occu- pied.		Pro- vided.	Occu- pied.		Pro- vided.	Occu- pied.		Pro- vided.	Occu- pied.		
Medical	...	10	17	...	9	16	...	16	—	...	10	33	...	35				
Surgical	...	8	22	...	16	18	...	14	—	...	4	40	...	34				
Chronic Sick...		4	18	...	10	19	...	18	—	...	1	37	...	29				
Maternity	...	11	—	...	—	27	...	26	—	...	—	27	...	26				
Children	...	1	—	...	—	—	...	—	10	...	10	10	...	10				
Totals	...	34	57	...	35	80	...	74	10	...	25	147	...	134				

### STATISTICS RELATING TO THE PERIOD ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1938.

#### (A) IN-PATIENTS.

1. Total number of admissions (including infants born in Hospital) ... 2,333
2. Number of women confined in Hospital ... 426
3. Number of live births ... 417
4. Number of still births ... 19
5. Number of deaths among the newly-born (i.e., under four weeks of age) ... 23
6. Total number of deaths among children under one year (including those given under 5) ... 34

7.	Number of maternal deaths among women admitted to hospital for confinement ... ..	1
8.	Total number of deaths ... ..	159
9.	Total number of discharges (including infants born in hospital ... ..)	2,152
10.	Duration of stay of patients included in 8 and 9 above. Number of cases whose total stay was for the following periods:—	
	(a) Under four weeks ... ..	1,878
	(b) Four weeks and under thirteen weeks ... ..	400
	(c) Thirteen weeks or more ... ..	33
11.	Number of beds occupied (excluding cots in maternity wards. (a) average during the year 136.9; (b) highest 155 on September 23rd; (c) lowest 109, on December 24th.	
12.	Number of surgical operations under general anæsthetic (excluding dental operations) ... ..	572
13.	Number of abdominal sections ... ..	169

## (B) OUT-PATIENTS

There is at present no out-patient department in connection with St. Chad's Hospital.

(C) CLASSIFICATION OF IN-PATIENTS WHO WERE DISCHARGED FROM OR WHO DIED IN THE INSTITUTION DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1938.

Disease Groups.				Children (under 16 years of age.)		Men and Women.	
				Dis- charged.	Died.	Dis- charged.	Died.
A.	Acute Infectious Disease	...	...	6	2	12	1
B.	Influenza	...	...	—	—	4	—
C.	Tuberculosis:—						
	Pulmonary	...	...	—	—	12	4
	Non-Pulmonary	...	...	—	—	8	—
D.	Malignant Disease	...	...	—	—	41	20
E.	Rheumatism:—						
(1)	Acute Rheumatism (Rheumatic Fever) together with sub-acute Rheumatism and Chorea	...	...	15	—	18	2
(2)	Non-articular manifestations of so-called "rheumatism" (Muscular Rheumatism, Fibrositis, Lumbago and Sciatica)	...	...	—	—	8	—
(3)	Chronic Arthritis	...	...	—	—	10	—

F. Venereal Disease	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
G. Puerperal Pyrexia:—							
(a) Women confined in the Hospital	—	—	23	—			
(b) Other cases	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
H. Other Diseases and Accidents connected with Pregnancy and Childbirth	—	—	90	1			
I. Mental Diseases:—							
(a) Senile Dementia	...	...	—	—	2	—	
(b) Other	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
J. Senile Decay	...	...	...	—	—	2	—
K. Accidental Injury and Violence	...	53	1	125	9		
In respect of cases not included above.							
L. Disease of the Nervous System and Sense Organs	...	...	...	31	4	40	14
M. Disease of Respiratory System	...	...	53	4	80	27	
N. Disease of Circulatory System	...	...	6	—	60	16	
O. Disease of Digestive System	...	...	142	3	241	15	
P. Disease of Genita-Urinary System	...	8	—	108	4		
Q. Disease of Skin	...	...	...	5	—	31	—
R. Other Diseases	...	...	...	10	25	36	7
S. Mothers and Infants discharged from Maternity Wards and not included in above figures:—							
Mothers	...	...	...	—	—	416	—
Infants	...	...	...	379	—	—	—
T. Any persons not falling under any of the above headings	...	...	...	23	—	54	—
				—	—	—	—
Totals	...	731	39	1,421	120		
				—	—	—	—

## (2) TUBERCULOSIS:—

Holly Lane Hospital, Smethwick. 22 beds for advanced and chronic cases.

Romsley Hill Sanatorium, near Halesowen. (Birmingham Corporation). 17 beds reserved for Smethwick patients.

For Surgical Tuberculosis: Cases are sent to "The Woodlands," Northfield and "The Forelands," Bromsgrove.

## (3) MATERNITY :—

There are 27 beds for Maternity Cases at the Council's Municipal Hospital (see page 44).

Two beds reserved for cases of Puerperal Fever at the Women's Hospital, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

## (4) CHILDREN :—

The Council has an arrangement with the Children's Hospital, Birmingham, for the treatment of children.

## (5) FEVER :—

Smethwick and Oldbury Joint Isolation Hospital, Holly Lane, Smethwick (total 86 beds). All types of infectious disease are now treated.

## (6) SMALLPOX :—

South Staffordshire Joint Smallpox Hospital, Moxley, near Wednesbury.

## INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS, AND HOMELESS CHILDREN :—

Hope Lodge, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

## AMBULANCE FACILITIES :—

(a) For Infectious Cases: Smethwick and Oldbury Joint Hospital Committee have two "Morris" Motor Ambulances, which are kept at the Isolation Hospital, Holly Lane, Smethwick (Telephone, Smethwick 0159).

(b) For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases: A 20 h.p. "Austin," two 20 h.p. and one 30 h.p. "Morris" Ambulances kept at the Fire Station, Rolfe Street, Smethwick. (Telephone, Smethwick 2222).

## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

## INFANT WELFARE CENTRES :—

There are seven Infant Welfare Centres in the Borough, and sessions are held on the following days from 2 to 4.30 p.m., with the exception of the Wednesday session at the Cape Centre (9 a.m. to 12 noon).

No. 1. Baptist Hall, Rawlings Road. Mondays and Wednesdays.

No. 2. St. Stephen's Hall, Cambridge Road. Mondays and Wednesdays.

No. 3. The Firs Clinic, Coopers Lane. Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

No. 4. Congregational Church Hall, Oldbury Road. Fridays.

No. 5. St. Gregory's Hall, Wigorn Road. Fridays.

No. 6. St. Mark's Church, Warley Road. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

No. 7. Cape Clinic, Durban Road. Tuesday afternoons and Wednesday mornings.

#### ANTE-NATAL CLINIC :—

Held at the Firs Clinic, Coopers Lane, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings, from 9 to 11, Wednesday afternoon from 2 to 3, and Thursday evening 5 to 7.

Held at the Cape Clinic, Durban Road, on Tuesday and Thursday mornings 9 to 11, Wednesday evening 5 to 7, and Thursday afternoon 2 to 3.

#### POST-NATAL CLINIC :—

Held at the Firs Clinic, Coopers Lane, on Thursday morning 9 till 11 and Friday afternoon 2 to 3.

Held at the Cape Clinic, Durban Road, on Monday and Wednesday afternoons 2 to 3.

#### SCHOOL CLINICS :—

Two School Clinics are provided, one at the Cape Clinic, Durban Road, and one at the Firs Clinic, Coopers Lane. The days and times of attendance are as follows:—

##### Treatment Clinics :—

Cape : Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings, 9.30 to 12 noon.

The Firs : Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings, 9.30 to 12 noon.

##### Inspection Clinics :—

Cape : Friday morning, 9.30 to 12 noon.

The Firs : Tuesday morning, 9.30 to 12 noon.

#### EYE CLINICS :—

The Firs Clinic : Monday 2 to 5 p.m., and Wednesday 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.



## IONISATION CLINIC:—

Cape: Monday morning, 9.30 to 12.30 p.m.

## SKIN CLINIC:—

Cape: Monday and Wednesday afternoons.

## DENTAL CLINICS:—

The Firs: Daily (except Monday and Wednesday afternoons) from 9.30 to 12.30 p.m., and 2 to 5 p.m.

Cape: Daily (except Tuesday and Thursday afternoons) from 9.30 to 12.30 p.m., and 2 to 5 p.m.

## CHEST CLINIC:—

The Firs: Monday from 7 to 9 p.m., Wednesday from 2 to 4 p.m. and Friday from 11 to 12.30 p.m. New cases seen by appointment only.

## ULTRA-VIOLET LIGHT CLINIC:—

The Firs: Monday from 2.15 to 5 p.m., and Friday from 2.15 to 5 p.m. Other days by appointment.

## X-RAY EXAMINATIONS:—

At the Firs Clinic by appointment.

## PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME:—

The Smethwick District Nursing Association, the Edward Cheshire Nurses' Home, Bearwood Road, Smethwick, has a nurse-matron and two nurses, who undertake general nursing among the poorer inhabitants in the district.

## MIDWIVES:—

Ten midwives reside in the Borough, and a total of 16 notified their intention to practise in the area during the year.

## CHEMICAL WORK:—

This work is undertaken by the Public Analyst for the Borough.

## Other Institutions available for the District.

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GENERAL HOSPITAL, STEELHOUSE LANE, BIRMINGHAM (Central 8611):—

Out-patients' Department open daily at 9 a.m.

QUEEN'S HOSPITAL, BATH ROW, BIRMINGHAM (Midland 2327):—

Out-patients' Department open daily at 9 a.m. (except Sunday).

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, LADYWOOD ROAD, BIRMINGHAM (Edgbaston 2957):—

For children under 12 years of age. Daily from 1.30—2.30 p.m.  
(except Saturday and Sunday).

WOMEN'S HOSPITAL, SPARKHILL, BIRMINGHAM (Victoria 1101):—

Out-patients' Department, Upper Priory, Birmingham. Daily  
(except Saturday and Sunday) from 1 p.m.

EYE HOSPITAL, CHURCH STREET, BIRMINGHAM (Central 6711):—

Out-patients' Department open daily from 9—10 a.m. (except  
Sunday).

SKIN AND URINARY HOSPITAL, JOHN BRIGHT STREET, BIRMINGHAM  
(Midland 5921):—

Out-patients' Department open daily from 1.30 p.m. to 3 p.m.  
(except Saturday and Sunday).

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT HOSPITAL, EDMUND STREET, BIRMINGHAM  
(Central 6576):—

Out-patients' Department open daily 9.30—11 a.m. (except  
Saturday and Sunday).

ROYAL CRIPPLES' HOSPITAL, BROAD ST., BIRMINGHAM (Midland 3804):—

Out-patients' Department open daily (except Friday, Saturday and  
Sunday), from 1.30—2.30 p.m.

DENTAL HOSPITAL, GREAT CHARLES ST., BIRMINGHAM (Central 3456):—

Daily from 9—10.15 a.m. (except Sunday).

MIDLAND HOSPITAL, EASY ROW, BIRMINGHAM (Central 1421):—

Out-patients' Department open daily 9—10.30 a.m.; afternoon  
appointments only (except Sunday).

MATERNITY HOSPITAL, LOVEDAY ST., BIRMINGHAM (Aston Cross 2508):—

Out-patients are seen on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and  
Saturday at 9 a.m., and Tuesday and Friday at 1.30 p.m.

THE BIRMINGHAM GENERAL DISPENSARY has a branch at Cape Hill,  
Smethwick (Telephone No. SME. 0659), 2—4 p.m. daily (except  
Wednesday and Sunday).

**Local Acts, Bye-Laws etc., relating to Public Health  
in force in the County Borough of Smethwick.**

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**LOCAL ACTS**

Smethwick Corporation Act, 1901.

Smethwick Corporation Act, 1927.

Smethwick Corporation Act, 1929.

**BYE-LAWS.**

Slaughter-houses, 1893.

Nuisances, 1914.

Good Rule and Government, 1921.

New Streets and Buildings, 1926.

Nursing Homes. 1929.

Public Health (Smoke Abatement) 1930.

**REGULATIONS**

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops, 1901.



## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

### SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1938.

#### BIRTHS.

The number of births notified during the past five years under the Notification of Births Act, 1907, and Section 203 of the Public Health Act, 1936, as adjusted by transferred notifications, was as follows:—

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Live Births ...	1,273	1,197	1,298	1,185	1,197
Stillbirths ...	38	52	45	51	38
	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1,311	1,249	1,343	1,236	1,235
	—	—	—	—	—
Notified by Midwives	914	896	917	832	787
Notified by doctors and parents ...	397	353	426	404	448

Comparison with the return of the local Registrar shows that very few births escape notification.

#### HEALTH VISITING.

The Council employ a Superintendent and thirteen health visitors who are also School nurses, the equivalent of seven whole-time visitors being engaged in Maternity and Child Welfare work. The number of visits paid during the year was:—

(i) To Expectant Mothers ...	First Visits ...	587
	Total Visits ...	1,158
(ii) To Nursing Mothers ...	Total Visits ...	431
(iii) To children under one year of age ...	First Visits ...	1,096
	Total Visits ...	5,148
(iv) To children between the ages of 1 and 5 years ...	Total Visits ...	7,706



In practice the town is divided into districts, to each of which one health visitor is allotted. Her duties include:—

Visiting expectant mothers.  
 Attendance at the Ante-Natal Clinic (by rota).  
 Routine visiting of new births notified.  
 Routine visiting of children up to the age of 5 years.  
 Visiting and treatment of cases of ophthalmia neonatorum.  
 Investigation of applications for grants of milk in necessitous cases.  
 Visiting in connection with stillbirths.  
 Attendance at the Infant Welfare Centre of her district and the home visiting of children who are attending.  
 Visiting in connection with non-notifiable infectious diseases, e.g., Measles, Whooping Cough, Chicken-pox, etc.  
 Visiting Mental Defectives.  
 Attendance at School Medical Inspection.  
 Attendance at School Clinics.  
 Visiting of "follow-up" cases until treatment is completed.

A separate health visitor is engaged in visiting tuberculosis cases, and covers the whole area.

The total number of visits paid by the health visitors during the past five years is as follows:—

1934.....	28,537	1936.....	23,579
1935.....	24,395	1937.....	25,882
	1938.....		18,899

#### INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

The number of Centres provided and maintained by the Council is seven with fourteen sessions weekly; the total number of attendances during the year was 37,676. The total number of children who first attended the Centres during the year was 1,494, of whom 1,025 were under one year of age, and 469 were between the ages of one and five years. The number of individual children on the registers at the end of the year was 3,525, of whom 978 were under one year of age, and 2,547 over one year of age. The number of children under one who attended for the first time during the year equalled 85.63% of the notified births.

The following table shows the total attendances at the centres during the past five years:—

		Under 1 year	1—5 years	Total
1934	...	17,008	20,422	37,430
1935	...	18,955	20,083	39,038
1936	...	18,538	18,379	36,917
1937	...	18,149	17,647	35,796
1938	...	19,194	18,481	37,675

The days and times of meeting and the average attendance at each Centre are set out below:—

Centre	Day and Time of meeting	Average Attendance		
		Under 1 year	1—5 years	Total
1. Rawlings Road	Monday, 2 p.m.	27	34	61
Ditto	Wednesday, 2 p.m.	27	37	64
2. Cape	Tuesday, 2 p.m.	23	24	44
Ditto	Thursday, 2 p.m.	16	26	42
Ditto	Wednesday, 9.30 a.m.	29	23	52
3. Sydenham Road	Monday, 2 p.m.	22	23	45
Ditto	Wednesday, 2 p.m.	21	28	49
4. Firs Clinic	Monday, 2 p.m.	25	14	39
Ditto	Tuesday, 2 p.m.	43	26	69
Ditto	Thursday, 2 p.m.	35	29	64
5. Oldbury Road	Friday, 2 p.m.	35	26	61
6. Warley	Friday 2 p.m.	30	32	62
7. Londonderry	Tuesday, 2 p.m.	27	28	55
Ditto	Thursday, 2 p.m.	21	25	46

#### VOLUNTARY WORKERS.

Seventy-three Voluntary Workers assist the nurses at the various Infant Welfare Clinics in the Borough. We are greatly indebted to these ladies who give up so much of their time; their services are much appreciated by the mothers and the staff.

#### MOTHELCRAFT CLASS.

The Mothercraft Class which had to be closed during the second part of 1937, owing to shortage of staff, was re-opened in the early part of this year. It had, however, to be discontinued in September, for the same reason.

#### EXAMINATION OF TODDLERS.

The scheme which was put into operation in January, 1929, in connection with the welfare of the pre-school child has met with a fair measure of success. As each child attains the age of 2, 3 and 4 years a note is sent to the parent inviting him or her to bring the child to the nearest Infant Welfare Clinic for a medical examination. A definite appointment at a definite place is offered in each case, and the examination given is on the lines of the school medical inspection. The responses to the invitations are not as numerous as one would like, and it is difficult to convince the parents of the need of a pre-school medical examination. School Medical Inspection records show that about one out of every four children who attend elementary schools is found at the first medical examination to be suffering from some disease or defect

which requires treatment, and these defects which are preventable or curable at an early age usually develop between the ages of 2 and 5. The results of our efforts during the year are as below:—

#### INSPECTION OF TODDLERS, 1938.

Examined.			Referred for Treatment.				Treated.			
Aged			Aged				Aged			
2	3	4	2	3	4		2	3	4	
121	139	148	...	44	99	108	...	24	51	60

An analysis of the defects found is as follows:—

Defects.				Referred for				Treated			
				Treatment.							
				Aged				Aged			
				2	3	4		2	3	4	
Anæmia	...	...	...	3	8	6	...	4	8	5	
Rickets	...	...	...	7	12	4	...	3	2	1	
Defective Hearing	...	...	...	—	—	1	...	—	—	—	
Otorrhœa	...	...	...	—	2	1	...	—	1	1	
Deaf and Dumb	...	...	...	—	1	—	...	—	—	—	
Cerumen	...	...	...	—	—	1	...	—	—	—	
Defective Vision	...	...	...	—	1	1	...	—	1	—	
Strabismus	...	...	...	1	3	2	...	1	3	1	
Blepharitis	...	...	...	—	1	—	...	—	—	—	
Bronchitis and	Bronchial										
Catarrh	...	...	...	1	7	6	...	—	3	1	
Enlarged Tonsils &	Adenoids			5	17	27	...	1	6	9	
Ptosis	...	...	...	—	—	1	...	—	—	—	
Teeth	...	...	...	—	12	39	...	—	3	27	
Digestive	...	...	...	1	3	—	...	2	1	—	
Umbilical Hernia	...	...	...	—	—	1	...	—	—	—	
Enuresis	...	...	...	—	1	—	...	—	—	—	
Phimosis	...	...	...	—	1	—	...	—	—	—	
Skin Diseases	...	...	...	1	1	—	...	—	1	—	
Flat Foot	...	...	...	13	18	5	...	7	6	7	
Malnutrition	...	...	...	6	13	9	...	3	6	3	
Others	...	...	...	6	6	4	...	3	4	4	
				44	107	108		24	45	59	

#### OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Number of cases notified, 14.

Cases treated by Health Department nurses, 2.

Cases treated at Birmingham and Midland Eye Hospital, 9.

Cases resulted in impaired vision, none.

Visits paid to cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum by the nurses during the year numbered 35.

Notifications for the past ten years:—

1929.....	13	1934.....	19
1930.....	13	1935.....	22
1931.....	18	1936.....	23
1932.....	12	1937.....	9
1933.....	10	1938.....	14

## HOME HELPS.

In order to provide for the care of the family during the mother's absence in hospital or during the lying-in period, the Council in 1931 inaugurated a scheme for the provision of Home Helps. A panel of 10 suitable women was formed and the rate of pay is fixed at 7s. 6d. per day for not more than 12 days (excluding Sundays). The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee approved a scale of charges for the services of Home Helps and part of the cost is recovered from the families assisted according to this scale.

The services of the Home Helps are not in great demand in Smethwick. It is found that most women prefer to have a neighbour or friend to run their houses rather than a total stranger. Last year there were 18 cases and the previous year there were 19 cases.

## ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

Since the establishment of the first Ante-Natal Clinic in 1920, the total attendances have been as follows:—

1920	...	...	42	1929	...	...	2,253
1921	...	...	107	1930	...	...	3,760
1922	...	...	127	1931	...	...	3,859
1923	...	...	241	1932	...	...	3,509
1924	...	...	275	1933	...	...	3,771
1925	...	...	537	1934	...	...	4,412
1926	...	...	1,015	1935	...	...	5,169
1927	...	...	1,079	1936	...	...	5,044
1928	...	...	1,465	1937	...	...	5,201
			1938	...	...	...	6,226

In 1938 the attendances represented 92.7% of all births registered in Smethwick, including babies born in the area of outside authorities. Very few mothers fail to attend regularly and absentees are systematically followed up by the Health Visitors. It is usually found that there is some very definite reason such as illness in the home that prevents attendance, and very few mothers fail to come through lack of interest in the service.

Two hundred and sixty expectant mothers received treatment by our dentists during 1938, the total attendances being 453.

## POST-NATAL CLINIC

The attendances at this Clinic during the year totalled 1,023. The number of individual patients attending was 322 representing 26% of the total births notified in the Borough during the year.

## MATERNITY TREATMENT

From the 1st April, 1935, maternity cases were received in St. Chad's Hospital, and the following extracts from the return made to the Ministry of Health relate to the year ended 31st December, 1938:—

Number of maternity beds in the Institution (exclusive of isolation and labour beds) ... ..	27
Number of maternity cases admitted during the year	426
Number of expectant mothers admitted during the year	115
Average duration of stay (maternity cases) ... days	17.3
Average duration of stay (expectant mothers) ... days	12.8
Number of cases delivered by:—	
(a) Midwives ... ..	342
(b) Doctors ... ..	84
Number of cases of Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	23
Number of cases of Pemphigus Neonatorum ... ..	—
Number of infants not entirely breast-fed while in the Institution:—	
Supplementary feeding, but breast-feeding established in Institution ... ..	30
Supplementary feeding, but breast-feeding not established in Institution ... ..	150
Entirely artificial feeding ... ..	3)
... ..	210
Number of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	8
Number of Maternal deaths ... ..	1
Cause of death:—	
Obstetric Shock; Incomplete abortion—22 weeks.	
Number of Infant Deaths:—	
(i) Still-born ... ..	19
(ii) Within 10 days of birth ... ..	20

Cause of death in each case, and results of post-mortem examination:—

1. Torn Tentorium ... ..	No P.M.
2. Cæsarian Section. Enlarged thymus gland ... ..	No P.M.
3. Prematurity. Twin birth ... ..	No P.M.
4. Prematurity. Mekena Neonatorum	No P.M.
5. Cardiac failure. Prematurity ... ..	No P.M.
6. Cardiac failure. Prematurity ... ..	No P.M.
7. Prematurity. Twin birth ... ..	No P.M.
8. Mekena Neonatorum ... ..	P.M. White infarct lungs Colon and meso colon injected and blood in lumen of bowel.
9. Cardiac failure. Accidental hæmorrhage. Prematurity ... ..	No P.M.
10. Cardiac failure. Prematurity. Induction for toxic pyelitis ... ..	No P.M.



11. Cardiac failure. Prematurity. Twin birth	... ..	No P.M.
12. Cardiac failure. Prematurity. Twin birth	... ..	No P.M.
13. Birth injuries. Fractured skull	... ..	No P.M.
14. Prematurity. Cerebral hæmorrhage. Breech delivery	... ..	No P.M.
15. Peritonitis	... ..	P.M. Pneumonia and peritonitis, pneumococcal.
16. Pneumococcal meningitis	... ..	No P.M.
17. Cerebral hæmorrhage. Precipitate delivery after version	... ..	No P.M.
18. Cerebral hæmorrhage	... ..	P.M.
19. Cardiac failure. Prematurity. Twin birth	... ..	No P.M.
20. Intracranial hæmorrhage and prematurity	... ..	No P.M.

#### MIDWIVES.

As stated in the last report, the Municipal Midwifery Scheme of the Council, drawn up in accordance with the Midwives' Act, 1936, came into operation on March 1st, 1937. The full staff consists of eight Municipal midwives, each of whom will be expected to do a maximum of about 80 to 90 cases per year. There is at present one vacancy. There are in addition two independent midwives living and practising in the Borough.

The following figures show the work done by the Municipal midwives during the year.

Number of bookings	... ..	501
Ante-Natal visits paid (excluding ineffective)	... ..	3,094
Births attended	... ..	433
Nursing visits	... ..	10,400

About one-third of the ante-natal visits were ineffective.

The scheme has now developed fully, and as the two independent midwives working in the Borough only take in-patients, almost all the deliveries in Smethwick, excluding those admitted to St. Chad's Hospital, are conducted by our midwives. The high standard of the work has been favourably commented on by several of the general practitioners in the area.

The inauguration of the Municipal Midwifery Scheme enabled the Authority to extend and develop the post-natal work. In the past the attendances at the single weekly post-natal clinic were only of women confined at St. Chad's, but now all mothers are encouraged to attend on two occasions after the birth of the child. The attendances during the year (1,023) were more than double those for the previous year.

The number of cases in which medical aid was summoned in 1938 and the previous four years is set out below. These figures include all midwives, Municipal and independent.

1934	... ..	284
1935	... ..	241
1936	... ..	288
1937	... ..	253
1938	... ..	241

The complications for which medical aid was sought were as follows :

MOTHER—

Torn Perineum	...	...	...	...	71
Prolonged Labour	...	...	...	...	28
Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	17
Abnormal Presentation	...	...	...	...	10
Adherent Placenta	...	...	...	...	13
Varicose Veins	...	...	...	...	1
Inflamed Breast	...	...	...	...	4
Uterine Inertia	...	...	...	...	7
Rise of Temperature	...	...	...	...	14
Miscarriage	...	...	...	...	3
Lymphangitis	...	...	...	...	1
Prolapse of Cord	...	...	...	...	2
Obstructed Labour	...	...	...	...	1
Toxic Symptoms	...	...	...	...	2
Premature Labour	...	...	...	...	3
Rupture of Membrane	...	...	...	...	1
Blood Pressure	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	1
Pyelitis	...	...	...	...	2
Foetal Distress	...	...	...	...	1
Twin Labour	...	...	...	...	1
Others	...	...	...	...	7

CHILD—

Discharging Eye	...	...	...	...	21
Dangerous Feebleness	...	...	...	...	7
Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	6
Talipes	...	...	...	...	2
Spina Bifida	...	...	...	...	1
Other Deformities	...	...	...	...	1
Rash	...	...	...	...	2
Discharging Umbilicus	...	...	...	...	1
Jaundice	...	...	...	...	2
Cyanosis	...	...	...	...	1
Tongue Tied	...	...	...	...	1
Asphyxia	...	...	...	...	3
Other causes	...	...	...	...	2

— 50

Routine Visits paid to midwives ... .. 91

Number of notices received re:—

Intention to practise	...	...	...	...	16
Sending for Medical Help	...	...	...	...	241
Attendance at Stillbirths (under C.M.B. Rules)	...	...	...	...	6
Attendance at Stillbirths (under Notification of Births Acts)	...	...	...	...	18
Cessation of Breast Feeding	...	...	...	...	11
Liability to be a Source of Infection	...	...	...	...	10
Death of Child...	...	...	...	...	8

NURSING HOMES (REGISTRATION) ACT, 1927.

One nursing home was registered during the year; it was inspected periodically.

## MATERNAL DEATHS.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth:—

- (1) From Sepsis, 4; (2) From other causes, 1.

The Maternal death-rate is 3.28 per 1,000 live births compared with 2.54 in 1937, 2.36 in 1936, 3.29 in 1935, 5.31 in 1934, 3.26 in 1933, 5.43 in 1932, 1.95 in 1931, 4.5 in 1930, 5.2 in 1929, 4.2 in 1928, 3.0 in 1927, 3.5 in 1926, 4.1 in 1925, 3.7 in 1924, 6.9 in 1923, 2.3 in 1922.

The rate for England and Wales for 1938 was 3.08.

## SUPPLY OF MILK TO EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN (MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE ACT, 1918).

The set-back in employment and trade in the town was reflected by a rise in the number of applications for free milk, the cases dealt with showing an increase of 129 over the previous year. Altogether 304 cases received grants of milk, this number representing 454 persons, compared with 175 cases and 280 persons in 1937.

Grants of milk free were made to:—

(a) Expectant and Nursing Mothers ... ..	61
(b) Children up to three years of age ... ..	260
(c) Children from three to five years of age ... ..	133

in cases where the family income (after deducting the rent) fell below a certain limit.

Ordinarily, milk is only supplied on a recommendation by the Assistant Medical Officers for Maternity and Child Welfare, and all children are expected to attend the nearest clinic if milk is granted. In exceptional cases where the mother is unable to bring the child to the centre, applications are dealt with at the Health Office.

	1935	1936	1937	1938
Cases receiving assistance during the year	332	247	175	304
Total cost ... ..	£1,064 1 3	£669 19 4	£549 15 0	£1,080 18 2½
Average cost per case ... ..	£3 4 1	£2 16 8	£3 2 10	£3 11 14
Average duration of case ... ..	21 weeks	19 weeks	17 weeks	17 weeks

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936—CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

1. Number of foster parents on the Register:—

(a) At the beginning of the year ... ..	13
(b) At the end of the year ... ..	13

2. Number of children on the Register:—

(a) At the beginning of the year ... ..	13
(b) At the end of the year ... ..	11
(c) Died during the year ... ..	—

3. New cases during the year ... .. 7

4. Number of children:—

(a) Returned to their parents ... ..	3
(b) Transferred to other Local Authorities	1
(c) Legally adopted ... ..	—
(d) Died ... ..	—
(e) Removed from observation ... ..	5

## ARTIFICIAL LIGHT TREATMENT

During the period under review 544 individual cases received treatment at the Light Clinic, as follows:—

Tuberculosis Cases	...	...	...	...	21
Babies and Toddlers	...	...	...	...	205
Children of School Age	...	...	...	...	318

These patients made a total of 6,299 attendances during the year:—

Tuberculosis Cases	...	...	...	...	504
Babies and Toddlers	...	...	...	...	1,998
Children of School Age	...	...	...	...	3,797

The above figures compare with 410 cases and 4,892 attendances for the year 1937 and 298 cases and 4,194 attendances for the year 1936.

The following tables show the type of case treated during the year, together with a summary of results:—

TABLE 1.—TUBERCULOSIS CASES.

DISEASE.	Total Cases Treated	Number Discharged	CONDITION ON DISCHARGE.				Continuing Treatment.
			Very much Improved	Improved	In Statu Quo.	Course not completed.	
Abdominal	2	1	...	...	...	1	1
Lupus	2	1	...	1	...	...	1
Cervical Glands	14	5	2	2	...	1	9
Spine	2	1	...	...	...	1	1
Wrist	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total	21	8	2	3	...	3	13



TABLE II.—BABIES AND TODDLERS.

DISEASE.	Total Cases Treated	Number Discharged	CONDITION ON DISCHARGE.				Continuing Treatment.
			Very much Improved	Improved	In Status Quo	Course not completed.	
Adenitis ... ..	9	6	...	4	...	2	3
Anæmia ... ..	8	8	...	5	...	3	...
Bronchitis and "colds"	55	47	4	26	2	15	8
Catarrh ... ..	5	1	...	1	...	...	4
Chilblains ... ..	3	2	...	1	...	1	1
Debility ... ..	52	47	5	23	1	18	5
Dermatitis ... ..	2	1	...	...	...	1	1
Cervical Glands ... ..	2	2	...	2	...	...	...
Delayed Dentition ... ..	20	17	1	9	...	7	3
Malnutrition ... ..	6	4	...	3	...	1	2
Nervous ... ..	10	5	...	4	1	...	5
Rickets ... ..	26	19	3	9	...	7	7
Rheumatism ... ..	1	1	...	...	...	1	...
Whooping Cough ... ..	6	6	3	3	...	...	...
Total ... ..	205	166	16	90	4	56	39

TABLE III.—CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE.

DISEASE.	Total Cases Treated	Number Discharged	CONDITION ON DISCHARGE.				Continuing Treatment.
			Very much Improved	Improved	In Status Quo or Worse	Course not completed.	
Adenitis ... ..	31	24	4	12	2	6	7
Alopecia ... ..	6	5	2	3	...	...	1
Anæmia ... ..	49	43	8	28	2	5	6
Bronchitis and "Colds"	85	62	5	40	1	16	23
Blepharitis ... ..	2	2	...	2	...	...	...
Cervical Glands ... ..	21	19	2	13	...	4	2
Chorea ... ..	3	2	...	2	...	...	1
Debility ... ..	62	46	4	31	2	9	16
Dermatitis ... ..	2	1	1	...	...	...	1
Malnutrition ... ..	46	32	3	26	1	2	14
Rheumatism ... ..	10	7	...	1	1	5	3
Whooping Cough ... ..	1	1	...	1	...	...	...
Total ... ..	318	244	29	159	9	47	74



## Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

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### SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

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I beg to submit my report on the Sanitary Administration of the Borough for the year 1938.

The year under review has been a difficult one in all sections of the Public Health Department. My own staff has been increasingly occupied on A.R.P. duties, the climax being reached during the crisis period of September, 1938. The record of sanitary work performed has not, however, been seriously reduced and this is accounted for by the fact that everyone has been willing to work longer hours so that neither A.R.P. nor Sanitary Administration should suffer.

A different picture will be presented next year, because at the time of writing these notes, the fourth week of the War, my staff has been depleted by three men who have left to join H.M. Forces, Messrs. H. Herbert (Assistant Sanitary Inspector), V. Lawton and J. Perrins (Clerks). My Deputy, Mr. W. E. Shaw, has been seconded to A.R.P. duties which will occupy him practically the whole of his time. My own time is still occupied as to over fifty per cent on A.R.P. work and this also applies to my remaining two Inspectors, Messrs. F. Caddick and S. Sadler.

Although these staff depletions do not so seriously affect the period reviewed in the report, I mention them here as a reason for the attenuated character of the report itself and the absence of details of much useful work that was carried out during the year. For example, a new survey of the town was completed early in this year and the information collected was more comprehensive than any previously obtained. Much of the tabulated material is of great interest and potential usefulness, but to have attempted to include it in this volume would have had the effect of further delaying publication of a report which is already later than any former annual report within my memory.

I wish to tender my grateful thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued support, to Dr. Paul for his never-failing friendly co-operation, to the Town Clerk and Chief Officers of other Departments for frequent advice and finally to the members of my own staff who have continued to give of their best under conditions of unprecedented difficulty. And in this acknowledgment I do not forget the absent members who are performing the more hazardous part of their Country's work "somewhere in Europe."

JOHN H. WRIGHT.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

## Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

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### WATER SUPPLY.

The Borough is supplied with excellent water derived from deep bore holes through red sandstone with a hardness in the region of 16 to 17 parts per 100,000. The quantity and quality have been well maintained throughout the year. The only important extensions have been those incidental to the conversion of waste water closets to hand-flushed water closets, involving the connection of additional service pipes for this purpose.

### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

A scheme for the surface water drainage of the Halfords Lane area has been carried out and in connection therewith 250 lineal yards of 30in. and 170 lineal yards of 27in. reinforced concrete tube storm water drains, 200 lineal yards of 18in. reinforced concrete storm overflow, 130 lineal yards of 15in. and 160 lineal yards of 12in. glazed stoneware foul sewer have been laid and two overflow weirs constructed on the Birmingham-Wolverhampton Canal. No other works of major importance have been carried out, but several minor extensions to sewers and the culverting of short lengths of brookcourses have been made in connection with housing schemes.

### RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No matters calling for report have occurred during the year in connection with brook courses and streams passing through the town and no cases of pollution have been reported.

### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The work of securing additional W.C.'s so as to bring the accommodation into line with the standard of one W.C. to each house, has proceeded steadily during the year. The work of securing the conversion of waste water closets to fresh water closets is now nearing completion.

### PUBLIC CLEANSING.

In the change over from horse transport to mechanical vehicles for Refuse Collection one more van type rear loading vehicle has been purchased and brought into service.

## Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

### SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

The total number of visits paid to all premises for all purposes was 19,946, compared with 20,029 in the previous year.

The inspections are analysed in the following table which also shows the number of defects revealed.

TABLE 1.					Visits Paid.	Defects Found.
House to House visits for purposes of						
measuring	...	...	...	...	31	—
Special Housing Act visits	...	...	...	...	811	—
Housing Act (Routine Visits)	...	...	...	...	103	910
Revisits re Housing Act	...	...	...	...	1,550	—
Visits to Housing work in progress	...	...	...	...	1,719	—
On complaint	...	...	...	...	1,985	2,541
Revisits re Notices served	...	...	...	...	4,892	—
Ashes accommodation inspections...	...	...	...	...	2,594	832
Revisits re ashes accommodation	...	...	...	...	689	—
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	749	—
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	1,510	—
Meat and Food Shops	...	...	...	...	342	3
Meat Regulations	...	...	...	...	36	—
Private Slaughtering	...	...	...	...	21	—
Markets	...	...	...	...	54	—
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	2	—
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	117	—
Ice Cream Vendors	...	...	...	...	17	—
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	10	1
Food Sampling	...	...	...	...	625	—
Factories	...	...	...	...	156	27
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	19	—
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	10	—
Canal Boats	...	...	...	...	2	—
Pigsties	...	...	...	...	9	4
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act	...	...	...	...	112	—
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	66	20
Drains Tested	...	...	...	...	12	3
Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs	...	...	...	...	5	—
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	2	—
Fairs	...	...	...	...	4	—
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	5	—
Waste Water Closet Inspections	...	...	...	...	290	—
Water Sampling	...	...	...	...	1	—
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	1,326	—
					19,946	4,341

## INSPECTIONS ON COMPLAINT.

During the year under review the number of complaints lodged at the office was 808 as compared with 696 during 1937. A further 1,177 complaints reached the Department in other ways, most of them being made to the Inspectors on their districts. The total number of dwelling houses inspected on complaint was, therefore, 1,985 against 1,517 in the previous year. Investigation of these complaints revealed the existence of 2,541 sanitary defects which are summarised in the following table.

## DEFECTS REVEALED IN HOUSES VISITED ON COMPLAINT.

TABLE 11.

Dirty Premises ... ..	340
Roofs, Spoutings and Eaves Gutters Defective ...	382
Yard and W.C. Drains Blocked ... ..	82
Yard and Passage Surfaces Defective ... ..	54
Defective Sinks and Sink Waste Pipes ... ..	31
Accumulations of Offensive Matter ... ..	11
Defective Plaster of Walls and Ceilings ... ..	328
W.C.'s without proper Flushing Arrangements ...	6
Ashbins or Ashplaces Defective ... ..	26
Water Closets Defective ... ..	148
Insufficient Lighting and Ventilation ... ..	115
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance ... ..	4
Water Fittings Defective ... ..	19
Smoke Nuisance ... ..	1
Insufficient W.C. Accommodation ... ..	49
Houses without Sinks ... ..	1
Dampness ... ..	155
Insufficient Water Supply ... ..	5
Dangerous Buildings, etc. ... ..	4
Defective or Insufficient Drainage ... ..	43
Defective Washboilers ... ..	63
Defective External Brickwork and Chimneys ...	112
Defective Floors ... ..	89
Defective Firegrates ... ..	118
Defective Stairs and Handrails ... ..	45
Defective Rain Water Cisterns ... ..	2
Defective Woodwork of Doors, Windows, etc. ...	159
Vermis Infestation ... ..	7
Offensive Trades ... ..	1
Miscellaneous ... ..	138
	<hr/>
	2,541
	<hr/>

## SUMMARY OF DEFECTS.

In the following table appears a summary of the various defects encountered in the course of visits paid to all premises for all purposes including inspection on complaint. In all cases the defects were dealt with by the service of notices under the Housing Acts; the Public Health Acts, the Smethwick Corporation Act, and Bye-laws, etc.

TABLE III.

	Defects Found
Dirty Premises ... ..	422
Roofs, Spoutings and Eaves Gutters Defective ...	474
Yards and W.C. Drains Blocked ... ..	83
Yard and Passage Surfaces Defective ... ..	91
Defective Sinks and Sink Waste Pipes ... ..	52
Accumulations of Offensive Matter ... ..	15
Defective Plaster of Walls and Ceilings ... ..	392
W.C.'s without proper Flushing Arrangements ...	6
Ashbins or Ashplaces Defective ... ..	859
Water Closets Defective ... ..	170
Insufficient Lighting and Ventilation ... ..	184
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance ... ..	4
Water Fittings Defective ... ..	19
Smoke Nuisances ... ..	39
Insufficient W.C. Accommodation ... ..	77
Houses without Sinks ... ..	21
Dampness ... ..	197
Insufficient Water Supply ... ..	25
Dangerous Buildings, etc. ... ..	4
Defective or Insufficient Drainage ... ..	60
Inadequate Foodstore Accommodation ... ..	29
Defective Washboilers ... ..	83
Defective External Brickwork and Chimneys ...	201
Defective Floors ... ..	120
Defective Firegrates ... ..	160
Defective Stairs and Handrails ... ..	61
Defective Rain Water Cisterns ... ..	2
Defective Woodwork of Doors, Windows, etc. ...	254
No Proper Storage for Coal ... ..	6
Lack of Clothes Washing Accommodation ... ..	8
Vermin Infestation ... ..	7
Offensive Trades ... ..	1
Miscellaneous ... ..	215
	<hr/>
	4,341
	<hr/>



# LETTERS WRITTEN AND NOTICES SERVED IN CONNECTION WITH SANITARY MATTERS

TABLE IV.

Letters	...	...	...	...	...	1,057
Preliminary Notices (Public Health Acts)	...					1,109
Secondary Notices (Public Health Acts)	...	...				120
Statutory Notices (Public Health Acts)	...	...				294
Statutory Notices (Section 75, Public Health Act, 1936, re Ashes Accommodation)...	...	...	...			129
Statutory Notices (Section 49, Smethwick Corporation Act, 1929)	...	...	...	...	...	144
Statutory Notices (Section 47, Public Health Act, 1936)	...	...	...	...	...	175
Statutory Notices (Section 9, Housing Act, 1936)...						130
Preliminary Notices (Housing Act)	...	...	...			48
						<hr/> 3,206 <hr/>

## SHOPS ACT, 1934.

It has not been necessary to take any action during the year under review in connection with ventilation or heating of shops or defective or insufficient sanitary conveniences.

## SMOKE ABATEMENT.

During the year, the number of half-hour observations of factory chimney stacks has risen from 20 to 66 and the number of nuisances recorded was 20. The increase in atmospheric pollution has been in large measure attributable to the overloading of existing steam-raising plant in an effort to comply with demands for increased output. The nuisances have been remedied in some cases by the installation of smoke consuming appliances or by the augmentation of existing plant and in other cases by more studied attention to scientific stoking.

## SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

The water in the public swimming baths is chlorinated and at the Smethwick Baths is also treated with ammonia. The maintenance of a satisfactory standard of purity is ensured by daily tests.

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

The procedure for dealing with verminous houses and articles has not been altered and therefore follows the lines set out in detail in the Annual Report of 1937. No large use has been made of the hydrogen cyanide method of fumigation and it has, therefore, not been necessary to employ contractors for the work of disinfection.

## PROSECUTIONS.

## MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926. ARTICLE 8.

On 24th January, a wholesale dairyman trading in Smethwick was summoned at the Law Courts for failing to cause four milk churns to be properly cleansed before returning them to the farmers. The Corporation's case was based on the bacteriological analysis of a mixed sample of washings from the four churns. The defence contended that the summons was bad in that the prosecution did not prove that each and every one of the four churns was dirty. The Justices upheld the contention of the defence and the case was dismissed.

## HOUSING ACT, 1936—SECTION 62

## FAILURE TO INSERT PERMITTED NUMBER IN RENT BOOKS

The owner of two dwelling houses was summoned to appear before the Magistrates at the Law Courts on the 27th June, for failing to insert in the rent books used in connection with the houses, the maximum number of persons permitted to occupy the dwellings. A fine of £1 was imposed in each case, together with 15/- special costs, totalling £2 15s. in all.

## FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT 1928.

On the 22nd August a Shropshire farmer was charged at the Law Courts on four counts with consigning milk into the Borough deficient of the prescribed minimum percentage of fat. After a lengthy hearing the Magistrates, in view of the excellent character of the defendant, dismissed the summons under the Probation of Offenders Act on payment of costs.

On the same date, a firm of wholesale dairymen trading in the City of Birmingham, was summoned for delivering to a Smethwick retailer milk which was deficient of 16.67% of the minimum amount of fat. The defendants were found guilty and a fine of £5, together with cost of 12s. 6d. was imposed.

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936—SECTION 94.

The owner of a dwelling house was summoned to appear at the Law Courts for non-compliance with an Abatement Notice. At the defendant's request, the hearing was adjourned for a week, during which the work was satisfactorily completed. At the resumed hearing, the complaint was withdrawn.

# HOUSING.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1938.

TABLE V.

## 1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	6,285
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	15,225
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... ..	103
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1,653
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	14
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	89

## 2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ..	989
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## 3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

### A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	130
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice:—	
(a) By owners ... ..	130
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	4

## B.—Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	742
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners ... ..	728
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	28

## C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	13
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	—
(3) Number of Undertakings accepted to render dwelling houses fit for habitation ... ..	—
(4) Number of Undertakings not to use houses for human habitation ... ..	1

## D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	8
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	12

## \*4. HOUSING ACT, 1936. Overcrowding.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... ..	184
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ... ..	184
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ... ..	1,485
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	86
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..	62
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	527
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... ..	—

\* Information under 4 states position at 31st March, 1939, on which date a complete Housing Re-survey of the Town was completed.

## Inspection and Supervision of Food.

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### (a) MILK SUPPLY.

#### DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

The number of dairymen on the register at the end of the year was 565 as compared with 559 in the previous year. The number of cowsheds was 2.

#### EXAMINATION OF MILK FOR BACTERIAL COUNT.

During the year under review 88 samples of all grades of milk, including raw untreated milk, were submitted to the University of Birmingham Public Health Laboratory for examination for bacterial count.

#### EXAMINATION OF MILK FOR THE PRESENCE OF TUBERCLE BACILLI.

The number of samples of milk submitted for biological examination for the purpose of detecting the presence of living Tubercle Bacilli was 185 compared with 123 in the year 1937. Twelve of these samples gave positive results representing a percentage of 6.49 which is a marked increase on the previous year's percentage of 5.07.

#### MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

During the year the following licences under the above order were in force in the Borough.

#### TABLE VI.

##### Principal Licences.

- Two licences to bottle Tuberculin Tested milk.
- Two licences to pasteurize milk.
- One licence to bottle Accredited milk.

##### Dealers' Licences.

- Four licences to sell Tuberculin Tested milk.
- Ten licences to sell Pasteurized milk.
- Three licences to sell Accredited milk.

##### Supplementary Licences.

- Nine licences to sell Tuberculin Tested milk.
- Eight licences to sell Pasteurized milk.
- Seven licences to sell Accredited milk.



## (b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There are 8 licensed and 5 registered slaughterhouses in the town. These premises are regularly visited during the hours of slaughter and all meat killed and dressed for human consumption is inspected before being offered for sale.

Home-fed pigs killed on private premises for family consumption are also inspected. The number of these is declining year by year. For example, 31 carcasses were examined this year as against 44 in the previous year. Meat and food shops received 342 visits against 446 last year and markets 54 visits against 40 in 1937. The number of animals and carcasses examined during the period under review are summarised in the following table.

TABLE VII.  
NUMBER AND CLASSIFICATION OF ANIMALS AND  
CARCASSES EXAMINED.

				Before slaughter.		During slaughter.		After slaughter.	TOTAL.
Oxen	...	...	...	216	...	62	...	701	979
Cows	...	...	...	40	...	25	...	245	310
Calves	...	...	...	7	...	4	...	110	121
Sheep	...	...	...	631	...	271	...	1,660	2,562
Pigs	...	...	...	442	...	277	...	2,593	3,312
Pigs(on private premises)				5	...	—	...	31	36
				1,341	...	639	...	5,340	7,320

TABLE VIII.

				Cattle excluding Cows.		Cows.		Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.		Pigs.
Number Killed	...	...	...	763	...	270	...	114	1,931	...	2,901
Number Inspected	...	...	...	763	...	270	...	114	1,931	...	2,901
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.											
Whole Carcasses Condemned	...	...	...	—	...	—	...	—	1	...	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	...	47	...	16	...	—	11	...	90
Percentage of number affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	...	...	...	6.16	...	5.93	...	—	0.62	...	3.10
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.											
Whole Carcasses condemned	...	...	...	—	...	—	...	—	—	...	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	...	11	...	9	...	—	—	...	202
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	...	...	...	1.44	...	3.33	...	—	—	...	6.96

In addition to the meat which was condemned for Tuberculosis and other pathological diseases as summarised in the previous table, a further quantity of miscellaneous articles of meat and other foods was condemned for various reasons including putrefaction, physical damage, etc. The total weight of additional food so condemned was 3,510 lbs.

(c) ADULTERATION, ETC.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

The number of samples of foods and drugs purchased or procured for analysis during the year was 285 as compared with 315 in 1937.

All these samples were submitted to the Public Analyst, and the number reported to be not genuine was 21, the percentage of adulteration being 7.37. The percentage of adulteration last year was 6.35. In the following table the number of the various articles of food analysed together with the results of the analyses are summarised.

TABLE IX.

SUMMARY OF ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRUGS SUBMITTED TO THE PUBLIC ANALYST, AND THE RESULTS OF THE ANALYSES.

Article Analysed.				Total Samples.	Genuine.	Not Genuine.
Milk	...	...	...	179	158	21
Condensed Milk	...	...	...	16	16	—
Tinned Milk	...	...	...	4	4	—
Cream	...	...	...	3	3	—
Tinned Cream	...	...	...	3	3	—
Margarine	...	...	...	5	5	—
Lard	...	...	...	4	4	—
Cookeen	...	...	...	1	1	—
Butter	...	...	...	11	11	—
Salt	...	...	...	7	7	—
Tea	...	...	...	1	1	—
Rice	...	...	...	2	2	—
Cheese	...	...	...	9	9	—
Sugar	...	...	...	1	1	—
Pepper	...	...	...	2	2	—
Peas	...	...	...	1	1	—
Potato Crisps	...	...	...	1	1	—
Dressed Crab	...	...	...	2	2	—
Sild in Olive Oil	...	...	...	2	2	—
Sild in Tomato Sauce	...	...	...	1	1	—
Currants	...	...	...	1	1	—
Raisins	...	...	...	1	1	—
Sultanas	...	...	...	1	1	—
Milk Pudding Powder	...	...	...	1	1	—
Corn Flour	...	...	...	2	2	—
Rice Custard Pudding Powder	...	...	...	1	1	—
Sponge Mixture	...	...	...	2	2	—

Article Analysed.				Total Samples.	Genuine.	Not Genuine.
Fairy Cake Mixture	...	...	...	1	1	—
Orange Quinine	...	...	...	1	1	—
Syrup	...	...	...	1	1	—
Gravy Browning	...	...	...	1	1	—
Custard Powder	...	...	...	1	1	—
Beef Suet	...	...	...	1	1	—
Coffee Dessert	...	...	...	1	1	—
Tomato Soup	...	...	...	1	1	—
Pea Soup	...	...	...	1	1	—
Gravy Salt	...	...	...	1	1	—
Lobster Paste	...	...	...	1	1	—
Raspberry Jelly	...	...	...	1	1	—
Orange Jelly	...	...	...	1	1	—
Black-currant Jelly	...	...	...	2	2	—
Beef Dripping	...	...	...	1	1	—
Mint Sauce	...	...	...	1	1	—
Greengage Jelly	...	...	...	1	1	—
Mustard	...	...	...	1	1	—
Non-alcoholic Wine	...	...	...	1	1	—
Veal, Ham and Tongue Roll	...	...	...	1	1	—
				285	264	21

## PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD) REGULATIONS.

The following articles submitted to the Public Analyst were also examined for the presence of preservatives, all with a negative result:—

TABLE X.

Article Examined.				Total Samples.
Milk	...	...	...	179
Condensed Milk	...	...	...	16
Tinned Milk	...	...	...	4
Cream	...	...	...	3
Tinned Cream	...	...	...	3
Margarine	...	...	...	5
Lard	...	...	...	4
Butter	...	...	...	11
Cheese	...	...	...	9
Peas	...	...	...	1
Dressed Crab	...	...	...	2
Milk Pudding Powder	...	...	...	1
Custard Powder	...	...	...	1
Tomato Soup	...	...	...	1
Pea Soup	...	...	...	1
Table Jellies	...	...	...	5
				246

## CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

The Borough Analyst, Mr. Joseph Lones, F.I.C., F.C.S., of 41, Vicarage Road, Smethwick, carries out chemical analyses of food, drugs, water, air, etc.

Bacteriological examinations of food, including examinations of milk for methylene blue reduction test, bacterial count, and the presence of B.Coli as well as the biological examination of milk for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli are undertaken by Dr. Shrewsbury, at the Birmingham University. Public Health Laboratory, Great Charles Street, Birmingham.

## FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926.

During the year I submitted 12 samples of fertilisers and feeding stuffs to Mr. Joseph Lones, F.I.C., F.C.S., the Borough Agricultural Analyst. All these samples were certified to be genuine.

## FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The number of visits paid to factories and workshops was 185 compared with 112 in the previous year. There were 10 visits to out-workers' premises.

## 1.—INSPECTIONS OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS &amp; WORKPLACES

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR  
INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

	Number of		
	Inspections. (1)	Written Notices. (2)	Prosecutions (3)
FACTORIES ... .. (Including Factory Laundries)	156	3	—
WORKSHOPS ... .. (Including Workshop Laundries)	19	—	—
WORKPLACES ... .. (Other than Outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	175	3	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS  
AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of cleanliness ... ..	—	—	—	—
Want of ventilation ... ..	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ... ..	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation ... ..	2	2	—	—
Other nuisances ... ..	—	—	—	—
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient unsuitable or defective not separate for sexes	5 —	5 —	— —	— —
<i>Offences under the Factory and Work- shop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s. 101) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other offences ... .. (Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections men- tioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Act, 1921.)	2	2	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	9	9	—	—



# Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life in the County Borough of Smethwick 1938.

1938.

CAUSES OF DEATH		All Ages	0—	1	2—	5—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75—
ALL CAUSES													
	M	473	49	9	2	7	18	19	23	16	79	127	94
	F	421	27	2	7	10	25	16	22	30	75	84	123
1 Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers													
	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 Measles													
	M	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3 Scarlet fever													
	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4 Whooping cough													
	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 Diphtheria													
	M	3	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	8	...	...	5	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
6 Influenza													
	M	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...
	F	9	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	2	2	2
7 Encephalitis lethargica													
	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8 Cerebro-spinal fever													
	M	3	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
	F	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9 Tuberculosis of respiratory system													
	M	33	1	...	...	...	4	4	5	9	8	...	2
	F	23	...	...	...	...	1	10	8	2	1	1	...
10 Other tuberculous diseases													
	M	4	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	...
	F	4	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
11 Syphilis													
	M	3	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
	F	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
12 General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis													
	M	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
	F	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
13 Cancer, malignant disease													
	M	55	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	13	29	6
	F	72	...	...	...	1	1	1	7	11	18	17	16
14 Diabetes													
	M	5	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	4	...
	F	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	4
15 Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc.													
	M	17	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	1	7	5
	F	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	10	2	15
16 Heart disease													
	M	125	...	...	...	...	3	1	4	7	29	46	35
	F	105	...	...	...	2	3	...	8	5	20	31	36
17 Aneurysm													
	M	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
	F	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
18 Other circulatory diseases													
	M	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	7	10
	F	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	9	7
19 Bronchitis													
	M	10	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	6	2
	F	9	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	5
20 Pneumonia (all forms)													
	M	45	6	2	...	2	1	3	3	7	8	6	7
	F	22	5	...	...	...	3	3	...	...	1	4	6
21 Other respiratory diseases													
	M	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	4
	F	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	6
22 Peptic ulcer													
	M	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...
	F	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...
23 Diarrhoea, etc.													
	M	10	5	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...
	F	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
24 Appendicitis													
	M	3	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
	F	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
25 Cirrhosis of liver													
	M	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
26 Other diseases of liver, etc.													
	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...
27 Other digestive diseases													
	M	5	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	1
	F	6	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	2	...	1
28 Acute and chronic nephritis													
	M	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	4	2
	F	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	2
29 Puerperal sepsis													
	F	3	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...
30 Other puerperal causes													
	F	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
31 Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.													
	M	29	28	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	16	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
32 Senility													
	M	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	10
33 Suicide													
	M	5	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	...	1	...	...
	F	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
34 Other violence													
	M	21	1	1	...	1	2	2	1	3	3	5	2
	F	8	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	4
35 Other defined diseases													
	M	37	1	1	...	1	3	3	3	1	4	5	10
	F	32	2	...	1	3	3	3	1	4	1	4	7
36 Causes ill-defined, or unknown													
	M	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

